Purple Innocence
紫色の潔白
REMEMBER TO SUPPORT THE MANGAKA,
AND BUY YOUR COPY TODAY!!
DO NOT SHARE OUTSIDE
OF IRC WITHOUT PERMISSION.

Here is Greenwood™

story and art by Yukie Nasu vol.5

Here is Greenwood™

Vol. 5

Story and Art by

Yukie Nasu

Here is Greenwood

Contents

Ping-Pong Battle Go For It Hasukawa! 5

The Fun Starts Here (Part One) 33

The Fun Starts Here (Part Two) 59

The Fun Starts Here (Part Three) 83

The Family Hasukawa (Part One) 108

The Family Hasukawa (Part Two) 135

The Family Hasukawa (Part Three) 159

The Family Hasukawa Black Magic Women 183

Here is Greenwood
Vol. 5
Shôjo Edition
Story and Art by Yukie Nasu

English Adaptation/Yumiko Yamamoto
Touch-up Art & Lettering/James Gaubatz
Cover and Interior Design/Izumi Evers
Editor/Shannon K. Gamry
Supervising Editor/Michelle Pangilinan

Managing Editor/Annette Roman
Director of Production/Noboru Watanabe
Vice President of Publishing/Alvin Lu
Sr. Director of Acquisitions/Rika Inouye
VP of Sales & Marketing/Liza Coppola
Publisher/Hyoe Narita

Kare wa Greenwood by Yukie Nasu © Yukie Nasu 1998
All rights reserved. First published in Japan in 1998 by HAKUSENSHA, Inc., Tokyo. English language translation rights in America and Canada arranged with HAKUSENSHA, Inc., Tokyo
New and adapted artwork and text ©2005 VIZ, LLC.
The HERE IS GREENWOOD logo is a trademark of VIZ, LLC. All rights reserved. The stories, characters and incidents mentioned in this publication are entirely fictional.

No portion of this book may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means without written permission from the copyright holders.

Printed in the U.S.A.

Published by VIZ, LLC
P.O. Box 77010
San Francisco, CA 94107

10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1
First Printing, June 2005

www.viz.com

PARENTAL ADVISORY
HERE IS GREENWOOD is rated T+ for Older Teen. This volume contains suggestive situations. Recommended for older teens (16 and up).

PING-PONG BATTLE: GO FOR IT, HASUKAWA!

Here is Greenwood Guide to Honorifics

"Sempai"
Used to address more senior members of an organization. In a school, students in grades higher than the speaker are addressed as (their name here)-*sempai*. The honorific used to address students in lower grades is *kohai*. These honorifics are used in many other Japanese institutions, such as company offices.

"Sempai/kohai relationship"
Since *Here is Greenwood* takes place in a school, the *sempai/kohai* relationship is a crucial aspect of the lives of the students. It is much like a Western mentor/protégé relationship, but on a school-wide scale. *Sempai*, the senior students, are expected to look after the interests of their *kohai* and guide them, help them with their problems, give them referrals, and be their counselors. *Kohai* are expected to respect their *sempai*, do chores or menial tasks, follow orders, and learn.

Diminutives and nicknames
Like western nicknames, most Japanese nicknames are shortened versions of full names, sometimes with the honorific *-chan* or *-kun* tacked at the end. Sumire calls her husband "Hiro-kun," shortened from Kazuhiro-kun, similarly she calls her brother-in-law "Yakkun," shortened and slightly changed from Kazuya-kun. "Suka-chan" (pronounced ska-chahn) is a similar diminutive taken from Hasukawa, except that the word "suka" is also a not-so-common insult approximately equivalent to "baka" (fool).

–William Flanagan

PING-PONG BATTLE: GO FOR IT, HASUKAWA!

ONE SEPTEMBER MORNING...
...HASUKAWA KAZUYA ENTERS THE CLASSROOM AS USUAL, ONLY TO DISCOVER...
KAZA
MORNING!
?
...EVENTS ALREADY IN MOTION.
HEY!
HE'S HERE. PERFECT TIMING!
HASUKAWA, C'MERE A SEC.
YEAH, WHAT?
GO STAND BACK-TO-BACK WITH YOSHITAKE.
?
HASU-KAWA..
RIGHT.
LIKE THIS?
LIKE THAT.
YOU'LL HAVE TO TAKE MY WORD FOR IT WHEN FIRST PUBLISHED, THESE WERE COLOR PAGES—AUTHOR.
WILL YOU JUST GET ON WITH IT, PLEASE?
YOU CAN TALK ...
YOU ALWAYS MAKE IT TO THE COLOR PAGES!!
WHAT TH' HECK DO YOU WANT!?
FOR NO-NAME SUPPORTING CHARACTERS LIKE US, THIS..
O HAPPY DAY
CON-GRATS, MAN!
HEY! I'VE GOT A NAME.
I just may cry.
WAAAH!
I MADE IT TO THE COLOR PAGES!!
Even if it was just the front...
I...
UHUH

HMM...
HASUKAWA'S TALLER, BUT NOT BY MUCH.
SEE? I SAID SO, DIDN'T I?
AND? YOUR POINT BEING?
HE MAY BE 2 OR 3 MILLIMETERS TALLER THAN ME, SURE...
HASUKAWA KAZUYA AND YOSHITAKE TOMARU ARE RANKED FIRST AND SECOND, RESPECTIVELY, AMONG THE SHORTEST IN CLASS.
OH, WE WERE JUST TRYING TO FIGURE OUT WHO'D LOOK BETTER AS A WOMAN, YOU OR YOSHITAKE.
...BUT HE'S HARDLY WHAT YOU'D CALL THE MANLY TYPE!
EXCUSE ME?
...OH.
YOSHITAKE, OBVIOUSLY.
WHY DIDN'T YOU SAY SO?

WHY THE HECK WOULD YOU SAY THAT!?
WH-WHAT'RE YOU SO MAD ABOUT?
WHAT DID YOU—!?
THAT'S RIGHT! DON'T GET YOUR PANTIES IN A BUNCH ABOU—
DUDE! WE'RE JUST SAYIN', FOR A GUY, YOU'RE KINDA CUTE, IS ALL.
YOU OR KISARAGI, EITHER'VE YOU'D PASS FOR CHICKS, NO PROBLEM!
'ZAT SO?
RRG!
SINCE WHEN DOES 160 CM OF HEIGHT AND A FACE LIKE A MONCHICHI MAKE 'IM MANLIER THAN ME?
NUH-UNH! HE'S WAY GIRLIER THAN I AM.

K-RONG

I SAID, BRING IT ON!!
BUT YOSHI-TAKE, THERE'S NO NEED FOR YOU TO...
HEY, BRING IT ON!
WHAT DO I CARE?
HASU-KAWA?
...FINE.
WHATEVER YOSHITAKE'S GOOD AT IS FINE WITH ME.
OH,
PLEASE
RIGHT!
WHAT'LL IT BE THEN, GENTLEMEN? CHOOSE YOUR SPORT!

AW, WHADDA YOU KNOW? YOU'RE CUTER!
NO, YOU ARE!
YOU GOT MORE VOTES IN THE POLLS.
YEAH, BUT ONLY 'CAUSE I STOOD IN FOR YOU!
OH YEAH? WELL, WHAT ABOUT THE SPORTS FESTIVAL? YOU WERE THE MOST POPULAR CHEERLEADER OF ALL. HOW ABOUT THAT?
NO VIOLENCE, OKAY?
LADIES, LADIES!
I'D LOVE TO!
YOU WANNA TAKE IT OUT BACK?
WHAP
HOW 'BOUT IT?
WANNA DUKE IT OUT IN SPORTS?
...AS AN INDICATOR OF STRENGTH, IN WHICH CASE...
'CAUSE VIOLENCE IS BAD. EXCEPT...
THAT'S RIGHT! YOSHITAKE HASN'T GOT A CHANCE!
THIS ONE'S IWASHITA.
...AND THIS ONE'S STUDENT COUNCIL MEMBER HASHIMOTO
ROOF
HASHIMOTO, WAIT! WOULDN'T THAT BE UNFAIR?
THIS ONE'S TSUJI—

..ANYONE CAN BE GOOD AT PING-PONG.
IT'LL BE FINE. DON'T WORRY.
I PLAYED ALL THROUGH ELEMENTARY AND JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL.
ALSO...
AND NOW YOU'RE READING THE RULE BOOK.
ARE YOU SURE ABOUT THIS?
THAT'S RIGHT!
SINCE THE OTHER GUY'S THE ONE WHO CHOSE THE SPORT, DON'T YOU THINK THAT MEANS HE'LL...
YOU THINK?
WATCH HIM TOTALLY BE A PRO!
EVEN AT THE JUNIOR HIGH LEVEL, YOU LEARN STUFF LIKE CURVES AND SPINS...
...
IT WON'T BE LIKE PLAYING FOR FUN.
WE DON'T EVEN HAVE A PING-PONG CLUB HERE.
NOT NOW ... BEFORE!
TSK-TSK
YOU SURE HE'S NOT IN THE PING-PONG CLUB OR ANYTHING?
NAH, HE'S NOT A JOINER.

WILL YOU JUST CHOOSE, ALREADY?
YOU WON'T PUNK OUT?
YOU'LL LET ME CHOOSE?
....
YOU SURE 'BOUT THAT?
AND THE SPORT WILL BE...
GOOD!
WE'LL DO IT TOMORROW AFTER SCHOOL.
...TOMORROW, YOU AND TOMARU WILL HAVE A PING-PONG MATCH.
HEY, IT WASN'T MY IDEA. IT'S NOT LIKE I HAD A CHOICE!!
SO...
PHYS ED
X-GUN
Budda-Man

I'VE BORROWED ALL THE GEAR.
KLUNK
REC ROOM
DON'T YOU THINK MAYBE YOU SHOULD PRACTICE??
TWITCH
TWITCH
TWITCH
SURE IS.
SEMPAI? ISN'T THIS THE SAME ROOM FROM THAT GHOST STORY IN THE LAST VOLUME?
HERE.
Budda Man
WHOOP-SIE!

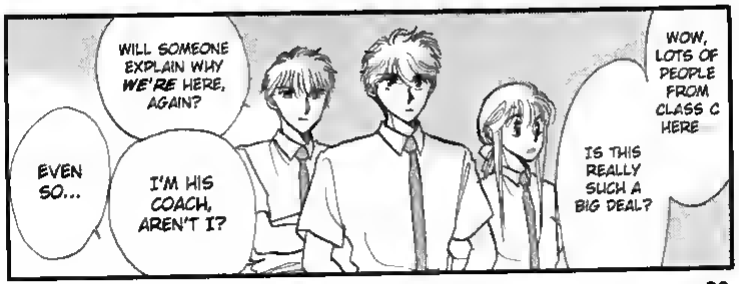
HERE COMES.
WHO CARES, AS LONG AS IT'S CONVENIENT?
POZG
PONG
K-PONG
POZG
BZZT!
YER OUT!
K-PONG
POZG
PONG
PONG
PONG
PONG
PONG

SEMPAI!!
LOB!
CUT!
LOOSEN UP YOUR GRIP!
SMASH!
GONNG
YOU'VE NEVER GIVEN UP A DAY IN YOUR LIFE! DON'T YOU DARE START NOW!!
SUCK IT UP!
YOU THINK THIS IS TOUGH?
You're in the wrong manga.
Hyuma...
UNTIL EARLY MORNING LIGHT DID THEY TRAIN.
A LIE, OF COURSE.
DON'T GIVE UP ON ME, COACH!
I DON'T PLAN TO, KID! HERE COMES...

ALL THAT'S LEFT FOR YOU NOW IS SHAME.
IF THIS "TOMARU" HAS EVEN A LITTLE EXPERIENCE, YOU HAVEN'T GOT A CHANCE.
THAT, PLUS ...
THAT YOU'D EVEN EQUATE BEING "MANLY" WITH SOMETHING LIKE THIS.. IT'S JUST SAD.
SUKA-CHAN, THIS ISN'T EVEN PLAYING-FOR-FUN LEVEL!
I hate to say it but...
...AND PLENTY OF IT!
... TRAINING ...
YOU'RE TOO TALL!
BEND YOUR KNEES!
HERE IT COMES, HASU-KAWA!
NONE OF IT'S ANY GOOD IF YOU DON'T WATCH YOUR FOOT-WORK!

YOU WANNA SEE WHAT I LEARNED LAST NIGHT, JUST WATCH!

YOUR LAME SERVES WON'T GET BY *ME*!


WILL SOMEONE EXPLAIN WHY *WE'RE* HERE, AGAIN?
WOW, LOTS OF PEOPLE FROM CLASS C HERE
EVEN SO...
I'M HIS COACH, AREN'T I?
IS THIS REALLY SUCH A BIG DEAL?

FW
FW
APP
HE'S, LIKE, REALLY GOOD!
OH, NO!
80 km/h
1-0.
TUD

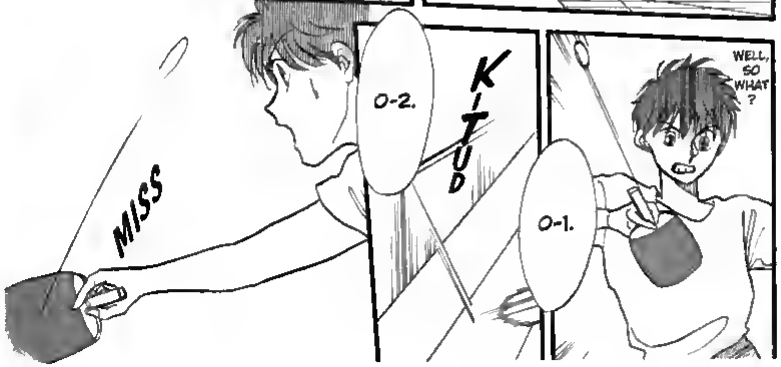
RI...
RIGHT!
READY? AGAIN.
PWAPP
MISS
SWIPE
?
YOU'RE NO AMATEUR!
HFF HFF
YOSHI-TAKE!
0-21!
GAME OVER !!
THE WAY THE BALL MOVES... IT'S NOTHING LIKE HOW MITSURU-SEMPAI DID IT!
WELL, EXCUUUSE ME!

GET ONE POINT, AT LEAST!
C'MON, HASUKAWA! PULL IT TOGETHER!
0-5.
CHANGE SERVE
TIP
SKUDD
PONG
TUD
16-0!

IT'S MORE DEGREE OF SKILL.
YES...
HE'S AS FAST AS THE OTHER GUY, BUT...
KWOP

SHUT UP!! WHAT DO YOU CARE?
HASUKAWA'S AN AMATEUR, AND YET STILL YOU PICKED PING-PONG?
NO FAIR !!
YOU SLIME!
I FORGOT TO TELL YOU.
BACK IN JUNIOR HIGH, JUST ONCE...
...I PLAYED IN THE NATIONAL CHAMPION-SHIPS.
SWAP
TUP TUP

THE NATIONALS ...
D-DAMN IT...


MISS
0-2.
K-TUD
0-1.
WELL, SO WHAT?

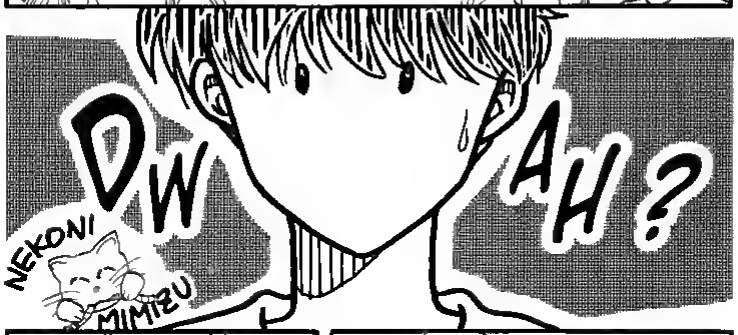
KWOD
DAMN IT!
I DID IT!!
WHOA!!
THIS'LL MAKE IT IN!
THIS ONE WILL—
BOUNCE
C.

0-20.
SERVE CHANGE.
HFF
HFF
SHOOT ME NOW
FORGET PONG, IT'S BARELY EVEN PING.
YOU READY YET?
'CAUSE
...THIS IS IT!!

DON'T.
IT'S OKAY.
I LOST.
WHAT'S THERE TO SAY?
HAVE YOU NO PITY AT ALL?
NOPE.
HE BEAT ME FAIR AND SQUARE.
I WAS WRONG TO THINK I COULD DO THIS, THAT IT'D BE EASY, THAT I WAS ANY GOOD AT SPORTS.
YOU WEREN'T WRONG—YOU'RE ACTUALLY PRETTY GOOD AT SPORTS.
THAT'S ENOUGH.

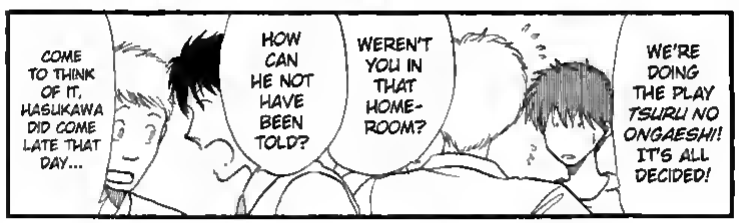
SLAM
DOMP
21-0 ...
GAME SET AND MATCH!
SMASH
ROLL...

CLAP CLAP
...WILL BE PLAYED BY HASUKAWA!
CLAP CLAP
...THE ROLE OF "O-TSU"...
CLAP

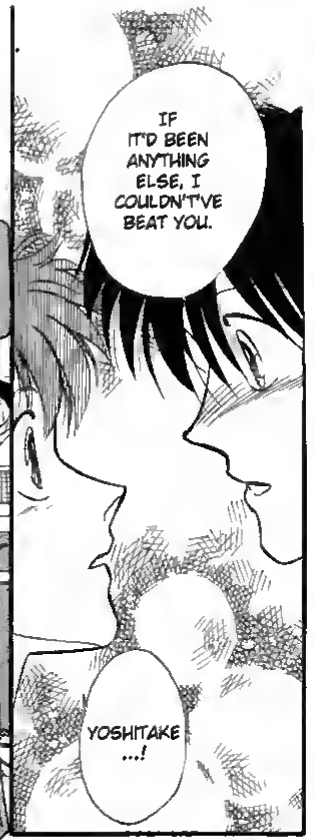

DW
AH?
NEKONI MIMIZU

YOU'VE GOT TO HAVE!!
WHADDYA MEAN, YOU HAVEN'T HEARD?

YES?
I HAVEN'T ...
B...
BUT HASHI-MOTO, I DON'T ...


COME TO THINK OF IT, HASUKAWA DID COME LATE THAT DAY...
HOW CAN HE NOT HAVE BEEN TOLD?
WEREN'T YOU IN THAT HOME-ROOM?
WE'RE DOING THE PLAY TSURU NO ONGAESHI! IT'S ALL DECIDED!

AHH~AHH~
AAAH
AHH


IF IT'D BEEN ANYTHING ELSE, I COULDN'T'VE BEAT YOU.
YOSHITAKE ...!

WHO, ME?
NOPE! NO PROBLEMS HERE.
YOU GOT A PROBLEM !?
AND SO...

WELL, I GUESS THAT'S THAT.
YUP, CAN'T BE HELPED.

THE FUN STARTS HERE
(PART ONE)

.....
YOU AGREED TO THIS MATCH, AND YOU DIDN'T KNOW *WHY*?
THAT ...
REHEARSALS START NEXT WEEK, SO BEFORE THEN...
THE ONLY ONES WHO'D WORK IN THE FEMALE ROLE WOULD BE YOU OR YOSHITAKE
DON'T LET US DOWN!
WELL, ANYWAY, IT'S TOO LATE NOW.
WE'RE COUNTING ON YOU!
YOU DON'T REALLY THINK HE CAN *ACT*...?
WHY DO YOU THINK WE WANTED HASUKAWA TO *WIN*!?
WHAT DID YOU—
OF COURSE! WHY ELSE WOULD I WORK SO HARD AGAINST AN AMATEUR?
OF ALL THE CHICKEN-SHIT THINGS TO...
YOU *KNEW*, DIDN'T YOU, YOSHI-TAKE?
THAT DIDN'T COUNT !!

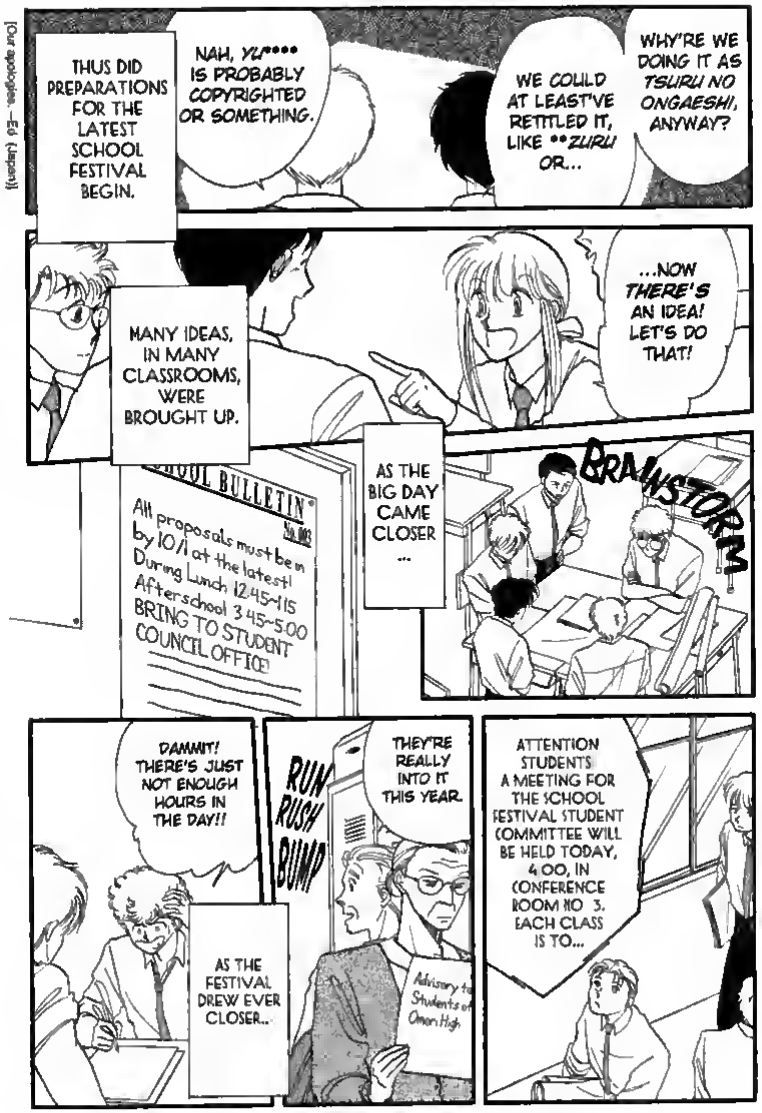
THE FUN STARTS HERE
(PART ONE)

RYOKUTO ACADEMY, END OF SEPTEMBER.
WITH THE SPORTS FESTIVAL OVER, ALL ITS STUDENTS ARE NOW...
...WITHOUT EXCEPTION...
...TIRED WITHIN AN INCH OF THEIR LIVES.
AND SO...
THE SPORTS FESTIVAL'S ALWAYS BEEN A BIG DEAL FOR OUR SCHOOL. BECAUSE OF THAT, OTHER STUFF TENDS TO TAKE A BACK SEAT.
PART OF THE REASON IS, STUDENT COUNCIL INVOLVEMENTS ASIDE, JUST GETTING READY FOR THE SPORTS FESTIVAL TAKES EVERYTHING WE'VE GOT.
AND YET ...
...THE PROBLEM IS, BETWEEN THE SPORTS FESTIVAL AND THE CULTURAL FESTIVAL...
THERE'S ONLY ONE MONTH'S DIFFERENCE

WHAT'S THIS?
?
HERE.
TAKE IT.
UNROLL
64th An
SPREAD
I'M SURE YOU'VE NO SHORTAGE OF "FRIENDS" OVER THERE.
THANKS, I GUESS.
EVEN I KNOW OSAWA IS A GIRLS' SCHOOL, IDIOT.
A FRIEND AT OSAWA ART INSTITUTE HELPED OUT.
WHEN'D YOU MAKE THIS?
THE POSTER FOR THE SCHOOL FESTIVAL ...
THIS CLOSE TO THE SPORTS FESTIVAL, I KNEW BETTER THAN TO ASK SOMEONE FROM HERE TO DO IT, SO...

...AS AN ACADEMIC INSTITUTION COMMITTED TO PREPARING ITS STUDENTS FOR ENTRY INTO COLLEGE, OUR LACK OF FOCUS ON CULTURAL ASPECTS IS A PROBLEM.
LUCKILY, THANKS TO ALL YOUR HARD WORK, WE'VE GOT THE STUDENT COUNCIL STUFF PRETTY MUCH SQUARED AWAY.
ALL THAT'S LEFT IS TO SEE HOW MUCH STUDENT INTEREST WE CAN RAISE FOR THIS FESTIVAL.
THAT'S SOMETHING THAT WILL BE UP TO ALL OF YOU.
TRADITIONALLY, RYOKUTO ACADEMY'S CULTURAL FESTIVAL IS HELD ON THE LAST SATURDAY AND SUNDAY OF OCTOBER.
GEEZ, WE JUST HAD A FESTIVAL. YOU MEAN THERE'S ANOTHER ALREADY?
I'VE GOT NOTHING LEFT, MAN.
Ryokuto Academy
64th Annual Cultural Festival
YEAH, BUT DID YOU HEAR?
WHAT?
SUPPOSEDLY, IF YOU'RE THE MOST POPULAR GROUP, THERE'S AN AWARD OR SOME PRIZE MONEY OR SOMETHING.

AND HE DID SET ASIDE A MUCH BIGGER BUDGET FOR THE FESTIVAL THIS YEAR...
HE'D BE THE ONE TO DO IT...
BUT THIS TIME, IT'S TEZUKA! IT COULD BE POSSIBLE!
NO WAY. USUALLY, THE MOST YOU CAN HOPE FOR IS SOME LAME CEREMONY THAT THE HEADMASTER GOES TO.
LET'S GO FOR IT! OUR CLUB COULD USE THE PRIZE MONEY FOR ITS OWN BUDGET.
GEEZ...Y'THINK? I MEAN...IT'D BE SO COOL IF...
WELL DONE.
THE ENDS JUSTIFY THE MEANS.
THE RUMORS SEEM TO HAVE SPREAD THROUGHOUT THE SCHOOL.
WE'D BETTER GET STARTED ON THE COSTUMES.
And the props and the...
1-C
'CAUSE THIS YEAR'S BUDGET BLOWS.
IT'D SURE BE NICE IF THEY DID...
"WHO COMES AT THIS Llate HOUR?"
KLATA
BUT EVEN IF WE DO ENTER...
IF WE CAN GET THE INDIVIDUAL CLUBS ON BOARD, EVENTUALLY THE ENTIRE STUDENT BODY WILL BECOME INVOLVED.
WOULD THE SCHOOL EVEN ALLOW IT?
DO YOU BUY IT?


THUS DID PREPARATIONS FOR THE LATEST SCHOOL FESTIVAL BEGIN.
NAH, YU**** IS PROBABLY COPYRIGHTED OR SOMETHING.
WE COULD AT LEAST'VE RETITLED IT, LIKE **ZURU OR...
WHY'RE WE DOING IT AS TSURU NO ONGAESHI, ANYWAY?
MANY IDEAS, IN MANY CLASSROOMS, WERE BROUGHT UP.
...NOW THERE'S AN IDEA! LET'S DO THAT!
AS THE BIG DAY CAME CLOSER ...
BRAINSTORM
All proposals must be in by 10/1 at the latest!
During Lunch 12:45~1:15
Afterschool 3:45~5:00
BRING TO STUDENT COUNCIL OFFICE!
DAMMIT! THERE'S JUST NOT ENOUGH HOURS IN THE DAY!!
AS THE FESTIVAL DREW EVER CLOSER...
RUN RUSH BUMP
THEY'RE REALLY INTO IT THIS YEAR.
Advisory to Students of Omori High
ATTENTION STUDENTS! A MEETING FOR THE SCHOOL FESTIVAL STUDENT COMMITTEE WILL BE HELD TODAY, 4:00, IN CONFERENCE ROOM NO. 3. EACH CLASS IS TO...

...WE'D STILL HAVE TO WIN, TO GET THE MONEY.
HASU-KAWA!
COULD YOU DO SOMETHING DIFFERENT WITH IT? LIKE, MAYBE, ACT?
"IT IS I, A WEARY TRAVELER."
"BUT, ALAS, IT IS DARK, AND I HAVE LOST MY WAY."
1-C
Tsuru no Ongaeshi
I AM TRYING, OKAY!? WHADDA YOU THINK I'M—
LOOK, THE CLASS PICKED YOU. AT LEAST TRY.
THIS IS MY FIRST TIME.
EASY FOR YOU TO SAY.
IT'S EVERY-BODY'S "FIRST TIME," ONCE!!
WELL, IT'S TOO LATE NOW, SO TOUGH.
DIDN'T I SAY THIS WAS A BAD IDEA?
.....
"PLEASE, MIGHT I HAVE SHELTER FOR THE NIGHT?"

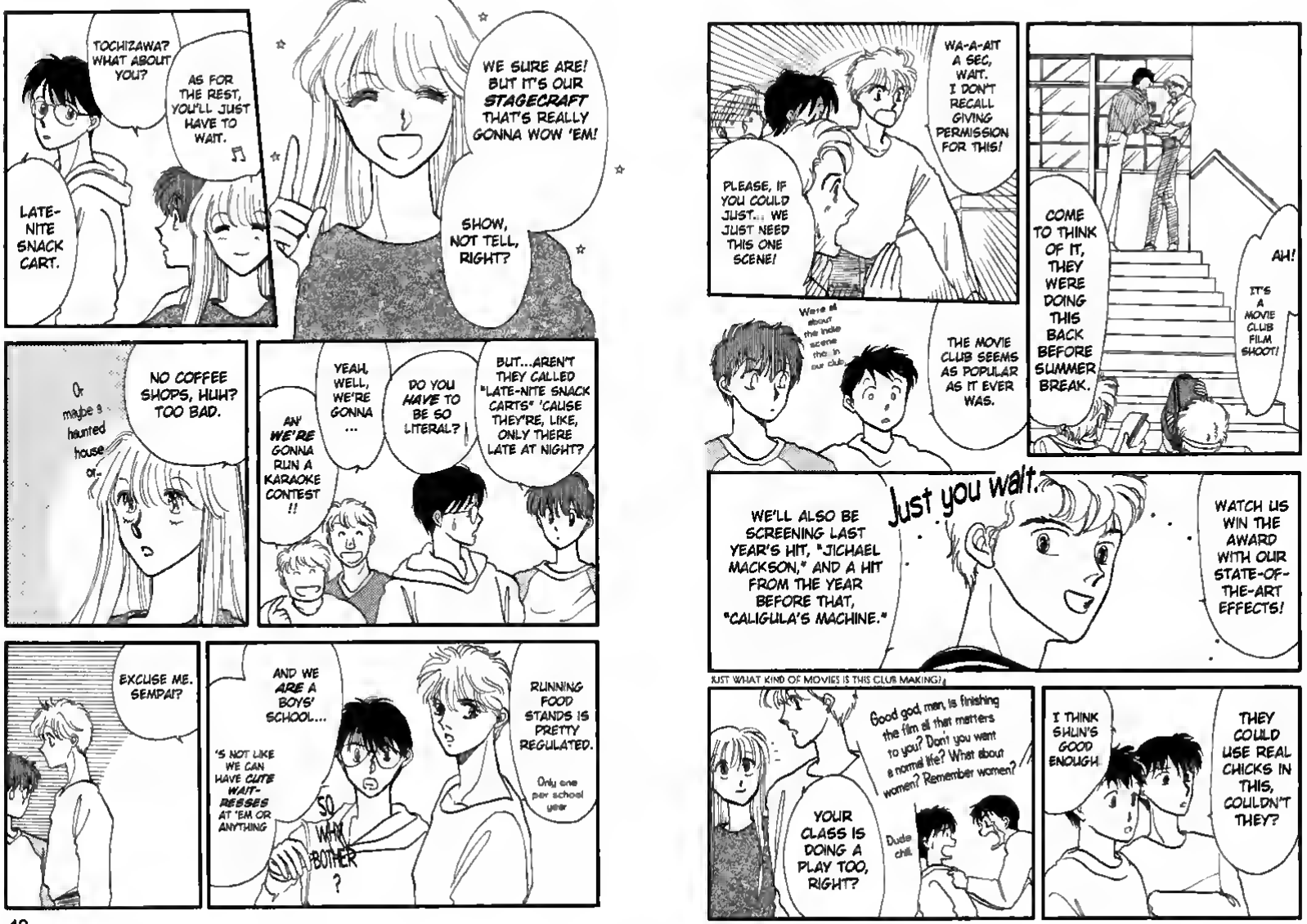
SEMPAI! PLEEEASE ACCEPT MY CLASS'S PROPOSAL!!
WE WILL, IF YOU JUST—
LOOK, I CAN'T TELL YOU! IT'S S'PPOSED TO BE SECRET!!
OKAY, FINE. BUT...
...ONLY IF NO ONE ELSE WANTS THE CONFERENCE ROOM.
HURRAY! THANK YOU!! ♡
You're amazing, do you know that?
I am?
WHICH CLASSES HAVE YET TO SUBMIT THEIR PROPOSALS?
JUST CLASS 5, NOW.
GOOD. LOOK, ANYONE WHO WANTS TO DO A/V, HAVE THEM SEND A REP HERE FOR A FACE-TO-FACE, ALL RIGHT?
I DON'T WANT ANYONE CLAIMING THEY "ACCIDENTALLY" PLAYED A TAPE BY MISTAKE.
WHAT, YOU MEAN ADULT VIDEOS?
AMONG OTHERS.
THE COPYRIGHT POLICE ARE REALLY GETTING TWITCHY LATELY, EVEN FOR SMALL EVENTS LIKE THIS.
OKAY, STOP, STOP!

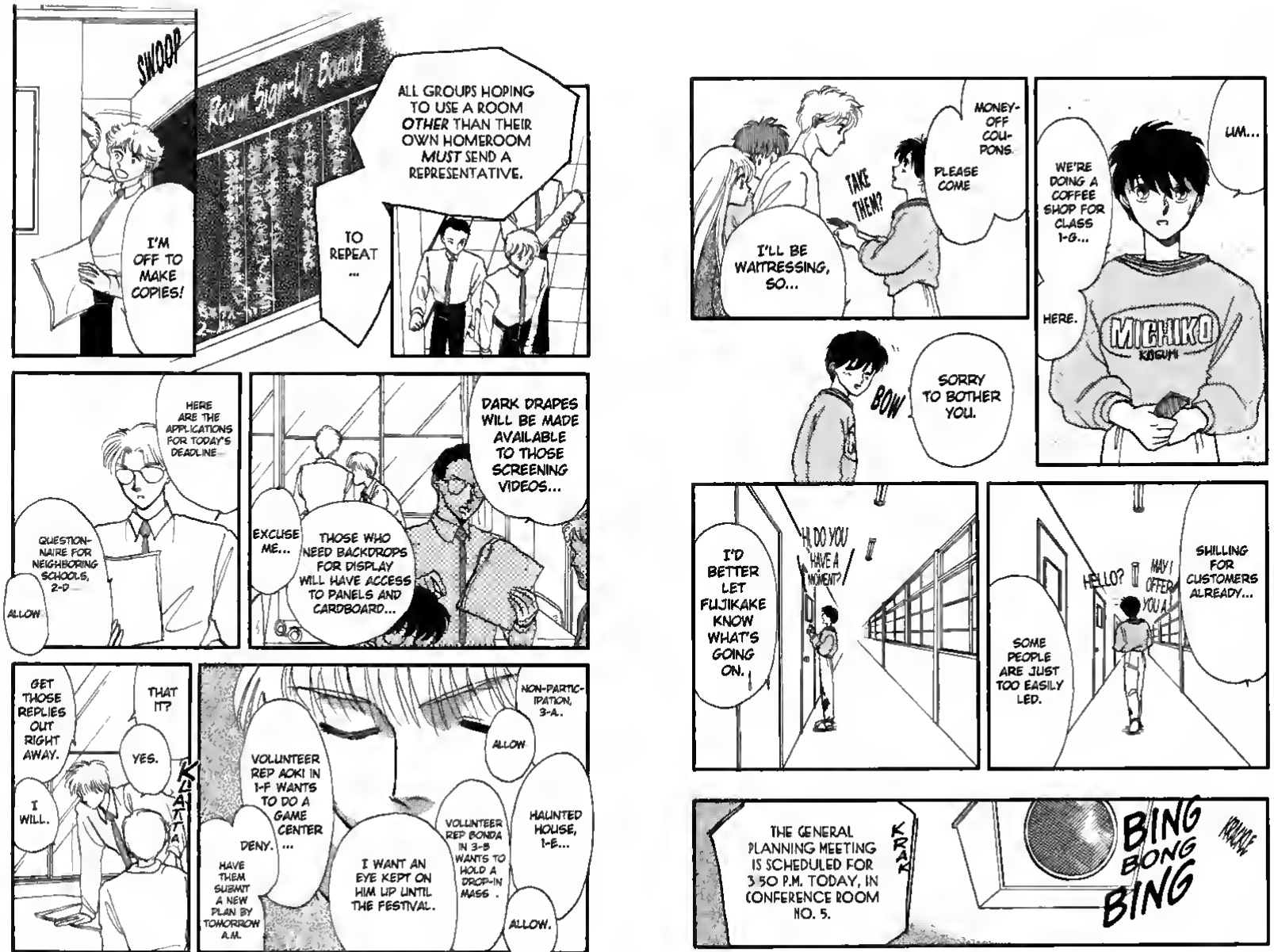
BECAUSE I SAY SO, THAT'S WHY!
WHY TELL WHAT WE CAN SHOW?
THE RULES ARE CLEAR. YOU HAVE TO PROVIDE A DETAILED—
BUT WHY CAN'T WE—
...EXCITEMENT WAS AT FEVER PITCH.
COMIN' THRU
'SCUSE US
SO THAT'S HOW IT IS, HUH?
BUT WHY CONFERENCE ROOM NO. 1? WHY NOT YOUR OWN HOMEROOM?
KLATA...
DID SOMEONE TAKE MY NAME IN VAIN?
UH-OH
CLASS PRESI-DENT ...
WHOA, HEY...
SHINOBU-SEMPAI! I NEED YOU TO—
I'M TAKIN' THIS OVER YOUR HEAD!!

LOOK, IF YOU WANT A PRO, GET SOMEONE ELSE!
WHERE'S YOUR WOMANLY KINDNESS AND GRACE?
YOU'RE A WOMAN, REMEMBER!? AND A CRANE.
Think crane... BE the crane!
THANK YOU!
WELL...
WHEN YOU PUT IT THAT WAY...
AND YOU! WHERE DO YOU GET OFF CASTING THE LEAD BEFORE YOU EVEN KNOW IF THEY CAN ACT?
TAKE ONE FOR THE CLASS, MAN!
LINE!
CAN WE HEAR THAT AGAIN, PLEASE?
WHY DID I EVER...
THERE'S YOU, FOR ONE.
BUT WHO ELSE IS THERE?
YOU'RE THE ONE IN CHARGE
YEAH, RIGHT
YOU DO IT!
BUT HE'S...
MAYBE YOSHITAKE SHOULD
COUNT ME OUT.
BUT YOU'RE THE ONE WHO FIRST...

OOH, PLAYIN' THE LEAD! HOTCHA!
I HEAR YOU'RE THE CRANE!
HASU-KAWA!
Cafeteria
KIND OF AN INTERESTING CAST, HUH? HIM AS THE LEAD?
HE'S GONNA BLOW 'EM ALL AWAY, MAN.
MAYBE YOU SHOULD GET SOME HEAD SHOTS DONE.
...
LESS TALKING, MORE EATING!
KLATT
DO YOU GET OFF THAT MUCH ON OTHER PEOPLE'S MISERIES!?
HASU-KAWA, HEY!
IT'S ALWAYS MORE FUN WHEN IT'S SOMEBODY ELSE'S SUFFERING
DON'T LET 'EM GET TO YOU.
WHOAWHOA

BADA-BING
SO I HEAR YOU'RE DOIN' SWAN LAKE?
I though it was Buntsuku Chagama no Tanuki?
Wasn't he doing The Fox Wife?
Tenpo no Hagoromo?
SUKA-CHAN, WHY DON'T YOU ASK MITSURU-SEMPAI TO COACH YOU AGAIN, LIKE HE DID LAST TIME?
DON'T BE RIDI—
"LEAVE IT TO ME!"
OR ...
...SO I WOULD LIKE TO SAY, IF I WEREN'T SO DARN BUSY.
A PITY, TOO.
BUT WHY NOT?
You're no fun.
LOOK, THE BRASS BAND CAPTAIN IS ON MY BUTT ABOUT CUTTING PRACTICE ...
B-BRASS BAND!?
SEMPAI! YOU'RE IN A CLUB? WHY DIDN'T YOU SAY?
IT'S OLD NEWS.
I've never taken it too seriously.
THERE'S ALSO CLASSROOM PLANNING...
...OF WHICH I'M A COMMITTEE MEMBER THIS YEAR, SO...
Don't be hasty, Capt! Without him, how many cute girls do you think will bother to come to our—
You know what? If we mean so much to you, don't bother! You only make us sound worse anyway!
NOT QUITE A "SIGN IN ONLY" MEMBER, BUT...
IN OTHER WORDS, THEY'RE COUNTING ON ME.
...OR SO THEY SAID.
INDEED SO.
YOU'VE REALLY GOT YOUR HANDS FULL, THEN, HUH?
HUH?
THAT'S A BIG BUNCH OF PEOPLE UP THERE.
C'MON, LEMME THROUGH.
PUSH


WA-A-AIT A SEC, WAIT. I DON'T RECALL GIVING PERMISSION FOR THIS!
PLEASE, IF YOU COULD JUST... WE JUST NEED THIS ONE SCENE!
COME TO THINK OF IT, THEY WERE DOING THIS BACK BEFORE SUMMER BREAK.
AH! IT'S A MOVIE CLUB FILM SHOOT!
We're all about the indie scene this in our club.
THE MOVIE CLUB SEEMS AS POPULAR AS IT EVER WAS.
WE'LL ALSO BE SCREENING LAST YEAR'S HIT, "JICHAEL MACKSON," AND A HIT FROM THE YEAR BEFORE THAT, "CALIGULA'S MACHINE."
Just you wait.
WATCH US WIN THE AWARD WITH OUR STATE-OF-THE-ART EFFECTS!
JUST WHAT KIND OF MOVIES IS THIS CLUB MAKING?
Good god, man, is finishing the film all that matters to you? Don't you want a normal life? What about women? Remember women?
YOUR CLASS IS DOING A PLAY TOO, RIGHT?
Dude chill.
I THINK SHUN'S GOOD ENOUGH.
THEY COULD USE REAL CHICKS IN THIS, COULDN'T THEY?
TOCHIZAWA? WHAT ABOUT YOU?
AS FOR THE REST, YOU'LL JUST HAVE TO WAIT.
LATE-NITE SNACK CART.
WE SURE ARE! BUT IT'S OUR STAGECRAFT THAT'S REALLY GONNA WOW 'EM!
SHOW, NOT TELL, RIGHT?
NO COFFEE SHOPS, HUH? TOO BAD.
Or maybe a haunted house or-
AN WE'RE GONNA RUN A KARAOKE CONTEST !!
YEAH, WELL, WE'RE GONNA ...
DO YOU HAVE TO BE SO LITERAL?
BUT...AREN'T THEY CALLED "LATE-NITE SNACK CARTS" 'CAUSE THEY'RE, LIKE, ONLY THERE LATE AT NIGHT?
EXCUSE ME. SEMPAI?
AND WE ARE A BOYS' SCHOOL...
'S NOT LIKE WE CAN HAVE CUTE WAIT-RESSES AT 'EM OR ANYTHING
SO WHY BOTHER ?
RUNNING FOOD STANDS IS PRETTY REGULATED.
Only one per school year


I'LL BE WAITRESSING, SO...
TAKE THEM?
MONEY-OFF COUPONS.
PLEASE COME
UM...
WE'RE DOING A COFFEE SHOP FOR CLASS 1-G...
HERE.
MICHIKO
KAGUMI
BOW
SORRY TO BOTHER YOU.
I'D BETTER LET FUJIKAKE KNOW WHAT'S GOING ON.
HI, DO YOU HAVE A MOMENT?
SOME PEOPLE ARE JUST TOO EASILY LED.
HELLO?
MAY I OFFER YOU A...
SHILLING FOR CUSTOMERS ALREADY...
THE GENERAL PLANNING MEETING IS SCHEDULED FOR 3:50 P.M. TODAY, IN CONFERENCE ROOM NO. 5.
KRAK
BING BONG BING
KOLOKOK
SWOOP
I'M OFF TO MAKE COPIES!
Room Sign-up Board
ALL GROUPS HOPING TO USE A ROOM OTHER THAN THEIR OWN HOMEROOM MUST SEND A REPRESENTATIVE.
TO REPEAT ...
HERE ARE THE APPLICATIONS FOR TODAY'S DEADLINE.
QUESTIONNAIRE FOR NEIGHBORING SCHOOLS, 2-D
ALLOW
DARK DRAPES WILL BE MADE AVAILABLE TO THOSE SCREENING VIDEOS...
EXCUSE ME...
THOSE WHO NEED BACKDROPS FOR DISPLAY WILL HAVE ACCESS TO PANELS AND CARDBOARD...
GET THOSE REPLIES OUT RIGHT AWAY.
I WILL.
THAT IT?
YES.
KATTA
VOLUNTEER REP AOKI IN 1-F WANTS TO DO A GAME CENTER ...
DENY.
HAVE THEM SUBMIT A NEW PLAN BY TOMORROW A.M.
I WANT AN EYE KEPT ON HIM UP UNTIL THE FESTIVAL.
VOLUNTEER REP BONDA IN 3-B WANTS TO HOLD A DROP-IN MASS .
NON-PARTICIPATION, 3-A.
ALLOW
HAUNTED HOUSE, 1-E...
ALLOW.

GREAT!
LET'S DO THAT!
EVERYONE KNOWS TSURU NO ONGAESHI, RIGHT?
WHY NOT MAKE IT A PARODY, AND GO FOR LAUGHS?
SHOULD WE REWRITE THE SCRIPT?
SENSEI?
SO HOW'S PRACTICE COMING?
HEY, IS THIS THE CLASS THAT'S DOING **ZURU?
KLATTA
WE'RE TALKING CULTURAL TREASURE, CLASSIC LITERATURE THAT GOES BACK TO THE VERY ROOTS OF JAPAN'S HISTORY!
I DON'T WANT TO SEE ANYTHING HALF-ASSED, GOT IT?
BOYS, LISTEN UP!
ABOUT YU****...
IS THERE SOMETHING ...?
NO, JUST CHECKING IN.

SOME DECISIONS HAVE BEEN MADE REGARDING THIS YEAR'S STUDENT COUNCIL...
GENTLE-MEN.
I-C
SIGH...
DON'T LOOK AT ME
I'M NOT.
HE'S JUST SO CLUMSY...
OKAY, SO IT WAS A BAD IDEA TO GET HASUKAWA TO ACT.
NOW WHAT?

NOW I GET IT...
HE'S THAT INFAMOUS
YEAH, WHY'S THE PHYSICS TEACHER GIVING US GRIEF?
WHAT'S WITH HIM?
IS HE ASSIGNED TO SUPERVISE THE ACTING CLUB?
Who's the lead?
Where's the script? I wanna...
SEARCH SEARCH
...SAYLIR-IST!
ASK YOUR DAD, KIDS! THEY'LL KNOW WHO THAT IS.
DON'T LET ME DOWN!
I'LL BE CHECKING UP ON YOU, YOU HEAR?
LOOK, THE STUDENT COUNCIL NEVER DOES ANYTHING FOR THESE FESTIVALS BUT RESEARCH PROJECTS.
I THOUGHT IT MIGHT BE NICE TO DO SOMETHING WITH SOME ACTUAL CULTURE.
I DO.
Student Council President
YOU WANT ME IN A PLAY PUT ON BY THE STUDENT COUNCIL?

YOU'RE KIDDING, RIGHT?
I'VE ALREADY GOT BRASS BAND, STUDENT COUNCIL, THE PROJECT WITH MY HOMEROOM...
AND ON TOP OF THAT, YOU WANT ME TO BE IN A PLAY? I DON'T THINK SO
WHAT DO YOU SAY?
THE PLAY WOULD BE AN EXCELLENT BRIDGE BETWEEN STUDENT COUNCIL AND THE DORM PEOPLE. YOU'D BE PERFECT.
DON'T YOU TRY AND SWEET-TALK ME. I'M WISE TO YOUR LITTLE TRICKS.
THE ROLE WAS MADE FOR YOU, I SWEAR...
BUT WON'T YOU AT LEAST THINK ABOUT IT?
WE NEED IT TO SUCCEED, AS PROOF OF OUR FUTURE POTENTIAL!
DOING THIS PLAY DURING THE SCHOOL CULTURAL FESTIVAL COULD BE A REAL TURNING POINT FOR US...
SEMPAI! PLEASE HEAR US OUT...
I'M SORRY, BUT THE ANSWER'S NO.
LATER.

IF EVERYTHING GOES WELL WITH THIS UPCOMING FESTIVAL, I'M SURE HE'LL ONLY BE THOUGHT OF EVEN MORE HIGHLY.

TWIRL

I'M LOOKING FORWARD TO IT. ♡

I JUST THOUGHT YOU MIGHT WANT TO SEE HIM IN ACTION... THAT IS, IF YOU HAVE THE TIME.

AND THIS *IS* A CHANCE FOR HIM TO SHINE AS STUDENT COUNCIL PRESIDENT.

Naoko here ▷

WE *ARE* TALKING ABOUT SHINOBU, AFTER ALL...

I'M SURE IT'LL BE SUCH A SUCCESS, THEY'LL TALK ABOUT IT FOR YEARS.

"TALK ABOUT IT FOR YEARS," HUH?

TREMBLE TREMBLE TREMBLE

"CHANCE TO SHINE AS STUDENT COUNCIL PRESIDENT," IS IT?

THERE.

AND *THAT'S* LETTING HIM OFF LIGHT.

Teach him to use me to do his stupid posters

GRR

ARE YOU TRYING TO *KILL* ME!?

BUT...

YOU'RE THE *ONLY* ONE WHO CAN DO IT!

BUT I WROTE THE SCRIPT WITH *YOU* IN MIND FOR THE ROLE!

IF ANYTHING, SHINOBU'S JUST...

WE SPEAK FOR THE PRESIDENT, AS WELL...

... FINE.

YOU WIN. I'LL DO IT.

PLEASE! PLEASE!

BUT I DON'T

...

I KNEW IT. I KNEW HE WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO SAY NO.

HE'S INCAPABLE OF IT.

SHINOBU'S REALLY BEEN PUTTING HIS *HEART* INTO IT.

...YES.

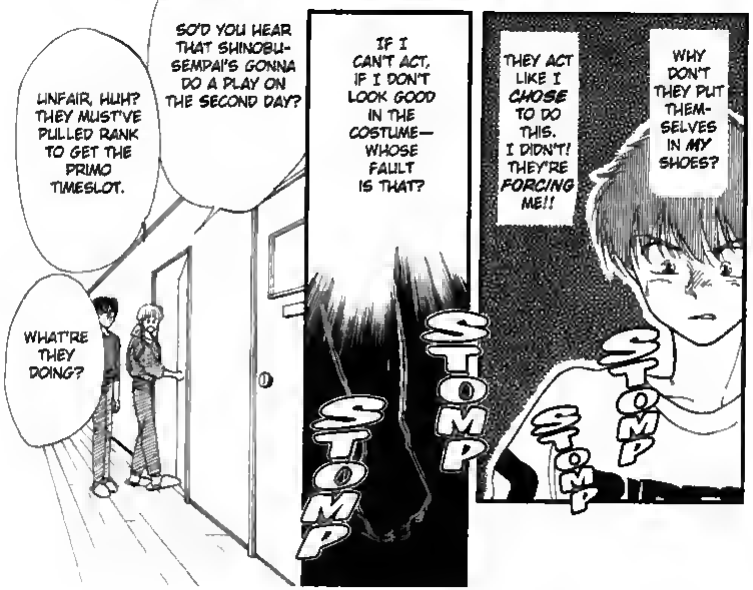
THE FUN STARTS HERE
(PART TWO)

ROOOOM
I DON'T THINK SO, SHINOBU !!
GIVE HIM WHAT FOR!
YOU TELL IM HASHIMOTO!
WE'RE NOT EVEN IN YOUR CLASS! PLEASE, CONTROL YOURSELF!
SENSE!!
IDIOT! YOU CALL THAT AN INTERPRETATION OF A CRANE?
WHERE'S THE NOBILITY, THE DIVINITY?
TWENTY-FIVE DAYS 'TIL THE FESTIVAL AND COUNTING.
THOSE ARE YOUR WORDS.
YOURS, NOT MINE.
"Fine. You win. I'll do it."
Drop...
.....

HEY! AUTHOR, HERE. DIDN'T MEAN TO SCARE YOU.
BELIEVE ME WHEN I SAY THIS YEAR'S FESTIVAL WON'T BE LIKE LAST YEAR'S.
AND, YES, THIS IS INDEED "THAT KIND" OF MANGA, SO TRY AND KEEP UP, WILL YOU, PLEASE? ♡
NOBODY CARES, SISTER!
BAM!
AS YOU WERE.
BOW
MAYBE A MORE LASTING SOLUTION ...
OBVIOUSLY, THE DAY CANNOT BE ALLOWED TO PASS WITHOUT INCIDENT. AND YET, HOW?
MORE TO THE POINT, HOW BEST TO RUIN THE FESTIVAL AT SHINOBU'S SCHOOL?
MISS, NO!!
HIGH-POWERED EXPLOSIVES RIGGED AROUND THE SCHOOL, OR...
YOU DO REALIZE THIS FESTIVAL ISN'T JUST ABOUT MASTER SHINOBU, DON'T YOU?
SO, UM, MISS...
OKAY, OKAY! CAN'T A GIRL MAKE A JOKE?
Maybe a Molotov Cocktail or...
THINK OF ALL THE INNOCENT BYSTANDERS!
PLEASE, ANYTHING BUT—
ISN'T IT?
DID I FAIL LAST TIME? YES. BUT THAT WON'T STOP ME.
REVENGE HAS BEEN SWORN AND MUST BE HAD... NO MATTER WHAT!!
LET ME EXPLAIN.
SHINOBU'S WHAT COUNTS!
HE MUST BE MADE TO SUFFER.
URK!
EVERYONE ELSE CAN DISAPPEAR OFF THE FACE OF THE EARTH, FOR ALL I CARE.

DON'T WORRY!
YOU'RE GONNA MAKE A GREAT GIRL!!
IT'S JUST A CLASS PROJECT FOR THE FESTIVAL, RIGHT?
YOU'RE MAKING TOO MUCH OF IT.

WAAH! SUKA-CHAN! HIT ME!!
STOMP
STOMP
STOMP
RIDER


LINFAIR, HUH? THEY MUST'VE PULLED RANK TO GET THE PRIMO TIMESLOT.
SO'D YOU HEAR THAT SHINOBU-SEMPAI'S GONNA DO A PLAY ON THE SECOND DAY?
IF I CAN'T ACT, IF I DON'T LOOK GOOD IN THE COSTUME— WHOSE FAULT IS THAT?
THEY ACT LIKE I CHOSE TO DO THIS. I DIDN'T! THEY'RE FORCING ME!!
WHY DON'T THEY PUT THEM-SELVES IN MY SHOES?
WHAT'RE THEY DOING?
STOMP
STOMP
STOMP
STOMP

ALL WE CAN HOPE TO DO AT THIS POINT IS PREVENT UNNECESSARY CASUALTIES...
SIGH... SOUNDS LIKE SOMEBODY'S GOT ISSUES.
MWAH HA HA HA!!
Let the entire festival go up in flames!

KLATT
...WOW, THANKS!

YOU GONNA EAT THAT?
Word it! ?
SUKA-CHAN. WHAT'S WRONG?
?
RIDER

PHEW ...
I'M SO BUSY SOMETIMES, I FORGET TO EAT.
TRUE, TRUE.
SIDESTEP

IT'S JUST ...
CRIDER

SIDESTEP

BECAUSE THE COUNCIL PRESIDENT ISN'T IN SESSION AT THE MOMENT AND CAN'T ...
WHY CAN'T I JUST TALK TO HIM DIRECTLY?
SHINOBU-SAMA
SO WHEN'S HE BACK, THEN?
MEANING WE'RE THAT MUCH CLOSER TO WINNING!
I HEARD THE LEAD MORON WAS HITTING ON THE LEADING LADY, SO SHE BAILED.
...I TOLD YOU, I WANT TO SEE TEZUKA!
"EQUIPMENT COMMITTEE MEMBERS, THEY'RE HANDING IT OUT TODAY. SO, REPORT TO MEETING ROOM 4—" SORRY! I MEAN, UM, UH "— REPORT TO WAREHOUSE NO. 4, THANK YOU, WHEREAS THOSE WHO WANT TO AUDITION FOR CLOSING CEREMONIES, PLEASE "
GET A SCRIPT!
GIMME A BREAK!
"ATTENTION, FESTIVAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS PLEASE REPORT TO THE STUDENT COUNCIL OFFICE AFTER SCHOOL SAFETY COMMITTEE MEMBERS, PLEASE REPORT TO MEETING ROOM 4..."
...GOING BY
AS IT IS WONT TO DO, TIME KEPT...

SUCKS.
211
EVEN IF I TRIED TO ASK THEM, THEY COME BACK SO LATE THAT I...
MITSURU-SEMPAI'S IN ON IT, TOO.
LIKE I'D KNOW?
THEY'RE TELLING EVERYONE IT'S "TOP SECRET."
WHEN'RE THEY SLEEPING?
THEY'RE NOT, I GUESS!
ON TOP OF FORTUNE-TELLING FOR HIS CLASS PROJECT, HE'S ON THE FESTIVAL COMMITTEE, AND HE'S ALSO PLAYING IN BRASS BAND, BOTH DAYS.
I MEAN, SHINOBU-SEMPAI'S BUSY, BUT MITSURU-SEMPAI...
PREPAR-ATIONS INCREASE
AS SCHOOL-FESTIVAL DAY MOVES INEXORABLY CLOSER...
...ALTHOUGH CHAOS, AS USUAL, REIGNS.
AW, MAN— LOOK AT THIS! THE MOVIE CLUB MAY NOT FINISH IN TIME!!

CHAIR-MAN?
THUNK
SNOOP
WE ALSO NEED AN OFF-CAMPUS OVER-NIGHT PERMIT...
ON IT.
BRING ME SOME, TOO, HUH?
LOOK, I'M GONNA GO GET SOMETHING TO EAT, HEAD BACK TO THE DORM AND TAKE A BATH.
I GOTTA GET OUT OF THESE CLOTHES.
...
KLATA
THIS WAS FOUND AMONG LETTERS SENT TO THE STUDENT COUNCIL...
NO DOUBT IT'S A PRANK, BUT...
.....
And lo! it was said that, on the day of the Student Festival, a mighty rain would fall. Repent of thy misdeeds whilst thou may, that tragedy may be averted!

AND THEN IT WAS THE DAY BEFORE THE FESTIVAL.
...IS IT REALLY APPROPRIATE FOR THE STUDENT COUNCIL TO ASSOCIATE THEMSELVES WITH THIS?
CONSIDERING THE WHOLE "PUT THE 'CULTURE' BACK IN THE CULTURE FESTIVAL" THING...
NOT TO MENTION THE CREATIVE FINANCING...
I DON'T THINK YOU'RE CONSIDERING THE SIDE BENEFITS.
POPULARITY POLLS, PRIZE MONEY, LETTING ANYONE DO ANYTHING ON THEIR PROJECTS... ISN'T IT ALL JUST WINDOW-DRESSING?
WE'RE SAVING THE FESTIVAL. IT'S WHAT WE'RE SUPPOSED TO DO.
KNEW IT!
DON'T LET ME DOWN ON THIS.
SEE? LOOK AT ALL THE MONEY THE WINNING GROUP WILL BE ABLE TO SET ASIDE FOR DORM PARTIES...
I KNEW YOU WERE UP TO SOMETHING LIKE THIS!!

UM, JUST A MINUTE, PLEASE ...
WE'RE STILL GETTING READY.
WHAT?
YOU DON'T LIKE IT?
WHAT THE HECK ARE YOU—
FUJI-KAKE!
Y-YOSHIKI!?
WHAT TH' HECK'S THIS ...?
THE CLOCK TOWER OF EAGLE
—A PLAY IN ONE ACT

PITHY AS USUAL, SIR.
CLAP CLAP CLAP
AT LEAST IT'S DIRECT.
AND THEN...
...AT LAST...
TEA HOUSE!
...DAY ONE ARRIVED.
LIVE HOUSE "WHITE HOT"
64th School Festival
Ryokuto Academy High

ZZZ

THE CULTURAL PHENOMENON! 1-C
TSURU NO GAESHI
HASU-KAWA! DON'T GET IT ON THE COSTUME !!
EWW!
NOT SO GOOD UNDER PRESSURE, IS HE?
HAS IT STOPPED BLEEDING?
SO NOW WHAT? THE CUR-TAIN'S ABOUT TO...
N-NOT YET...
THINK WE SHOULD CANCEL?
TOO LATE NOW!
...I'M SO SORRY...
Tho about half have been paid no...
THEY'RE UP TO THE RAF-TERS!
OH, NO...THE TEACHER!

I GOTTA HAND IT TO YOU...
YOU DID COME!!
MITSURU-SEMPAI!
DID WE KILL 'EM?
WE DID IT!
OH, WE KILLED, ALL RIGHT!
Hi-fy!
Hi-fy!
I'M ON ROUNDS.
I'M CHECKING IN, WHEREVER I CAN...
TMP
TMP
DO YOU HAVE THE TIME, THO'?
HOLED UP IN HQ
HE'S REALLY GETTING SLAMMED IN THERE.
WHAT ABOUT SHINOBU-SEMPAI?
TOMORROW'S RECEPTION DUTY AND THE STAGE THING, SO...
...THOUGH I'LL HAVE TO SWITCH TO MY OWN PROJECT AT LUNCH
THANKS. BREAK A LEG, HUH?
TRY TO TAKE IT EASY, HUH? I'LL COME LATER TO CHECK.
SORRY TO HEAR THAT.

WAH HA HA HAH
...I WON'T MESS UP LIKE THIS.
DING DONG DONG DING
WOAH!!
SHUT!
I THOUGHT IT'D NEVER END!
ONE MORE DAY'S CLASSES DONE.

STONE STEP

GO ON, GET TO THE NURSE ALREADY.
TODAY ONLY, MIND YOU.
GIVE IT TO ME.
HOW CAN WE EVER THANK YOU?
YOSHITAKE !?
ALL HE'S DONE IS WATCH.
"NOW THAT YOU KNOW THE TRUTH, I CAN NO LONGER STAY."
I KNEW WE SHOULD'VE JUST CAST HIM AT THE BEGINNING!
HOW IS IT HE CAN PLAY THE PART SO WELL?
TOMORROW
SAUNTER
SAUNTER
O-I-SU!
.....
O-I-SU! PLEASE! DON'T GO!

MAN, AM I TIRED!
POINT ME AT A BED.
A "MIGHTY RAIN," HUH?
WELL YEAH—THEY'RE STAYING OVER AT THE SCHOOL GUARDING THEIR BOOTHS OR DOING LAST-MINUTE STUFF.
DID EVERYONE TAKE OFF OR SOMETHING?
THE BATH WAS DESERTED.
I'M SURE MITSURU-SEMPAI'S GONE FOR THE NIGHT.
TO ME YOUR WORDS ARE AS NOTHING.
I'M PRETTY TIRED MYSELF
MUST BE ROUGH ... FOR SHINOBU-SEMPAI, ESPE-CIALLY.
STILL DON'T YOU THINK...

...THAT IT'S THE DOING IT TOGETHER THAT MAKES IT FUN?
DOES MY BED MISS ME LIKE I MISS IT?
OH-H-H, MAN...
HEY, PREZ! LOOK WHAT'S COME IN!
HOW DO YOU STAND THIS GUY? I MEAN, REALLY?
KATA
IT'LL ALL BE OVER TONIGHT, AFTER CLOSING CEREMONIES.
I CAN'T BLOW MY NOSE, NEVER MIND A HORN.

WHO'D EVER HAVE THUNK IT?
REAL LIVE GIRLS... IN OUR VERY OWN HALLS!
WHOA! LOOK AT THAT!
THERE'S ALWAYS YOSHITAKE ...
YOU KNOW YOU DON'T HAVE TO...
YOU'RE NOT GOING THROUGH WITH IT?
THERE'S NO TALKING TO HIM WHEN HE'S LIKE THIS...
SNRIG
PULL
I'M DOING IT.
SO THERE

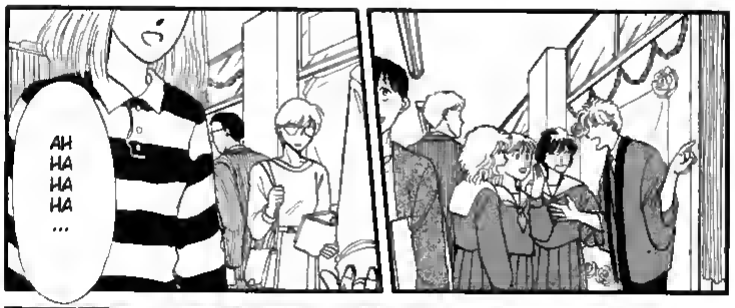
WE FOUND FIVE MORE LIKE IT IN THE TRASHCAN OUTSIDE THE MAIN HALL.
WHAT IS THAT?
Today comes the mighty rain!
IT'S SOMEONE'S IDEA OF A JOKE. I WOULDN'T WORRY.
THIS IS THE THIRD ONE.
....
EITHER WAY, TOMORROW'S THE FINAL DAY OF THE FESTIVAL... AND WE'VE STILL GOT A SHOW TO DO.
JUST A BIT MORE, AND WE ALL CAN REST.
DAY TWO ...

SHF
CLAP CLAP GOOD
HUH? CLAP
TRUDGE
TRUDGE
MAN, IT'S FINALLY OVER!
FIGURES THAT OUR MOST CHARISMATIC MEMBER WOULD ALSO BE OUR WORST MUSICIAN...
YOU'VE STILL GOT THAT STUDENT COUNCIL THING, RIGHT?
GIMME THAT.
GO ON, GO, OR YOU'LL BE LATE.

THANKS.
I APPRECIATE IT!
DON'T THANK ME. JUST COME TO PRACTICE.
Idiot
LOOK AT THEM ALL.
I RESPECTFULLY DISAGREE!!
PERHAPS WE SHOULD HAVE STARTED IMMEDIATELY, RATHER THAN ALL THAT FORESHADOWING WITH THE LETTERS...
.....
I WOULDN'T MIND SEEING...
SMACK

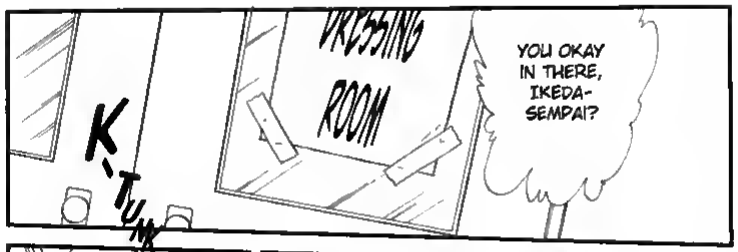
THE FUN STARTS HERE
(PART THREE)

FAIR ENOUGH.
...
HEE HEE!
KEEP THE ENEMY ON EDGE, AND THEN, BY THE TIME YOU DO ATTACK, HALF THE WORK'S ALREADY DONE!
JUST THINK HOW SHOT SHINOBU-SAMA'S NERVES MUST BE!
I JUST NOW FINISHED WITH...
SORRY I'M LATE!
KLATA
VERY WELL ...
SHALL WE?
KLATA
YES'M!
NOW LEAVE! AND MAKE SURE YOU STICK TO THE PLAN.
JUST YOU WAIT, SHINOBU ...
..THE FUN STARTS HERE. ♡
LET'S PUT ON A SHOW!
FASTEN YOUR SEATBELT, 'CAUSE...


AH HA HA HA ...

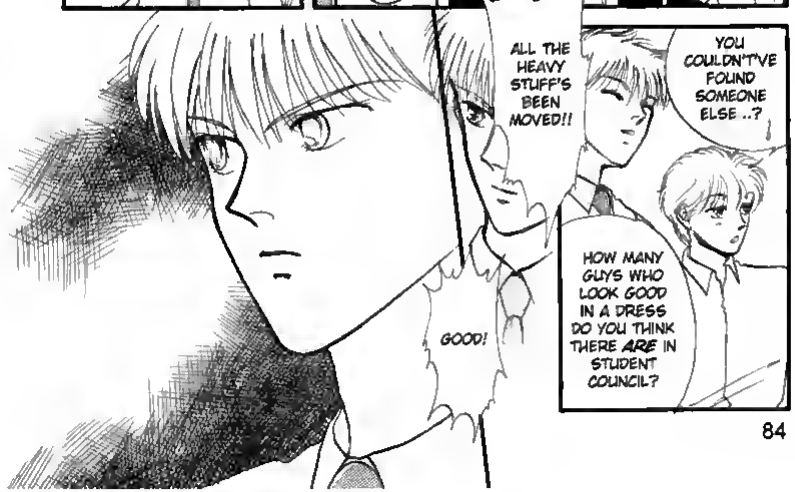
AHH HA HA HA HAH!
...THIS WILL BE THE WORST FESTIVAL IN SCHOOL HISTORY.
ONE WAY OR ANOTHER...

"ALL I EVER WANTED WAS TO BE WITH YOU, YOHYO, NOTHING MORE."
DUDE IS WAY TOO MUCH INTO THIS.
KASUKAWA
"BUT... WHY?"
NEVER GET CAUGHT AT THE SCENE OF THE CRIME →
MWAH HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HAH!!
BOOOM
PERFORMANCE in PROGRESS
Kasukawa's the Female Lead!


K-TUNK
DRESSING ROOM
YOU OKAY IN THERE, IKEDA-SEMPAI?

YOU TWO'S COSTUMES TAKE LONGEST TO GET INTO, SO...
YOU SHOULD THINK ABOUT GETTING DRESSED.
WE'LL GET RIGHT ON THAT, SIR.

WORSE, IT'S THE FESTIVAL FINALE!
TEZUKA-SEMPAI WORKED REALLY HARD TO GET US TO THIS POINT, SO DON'T YOU DARE—
OKAY, OKAY!!
MURMUR
BUZZ
REMEMBER, YOU'RE THE LEAD! DON'T LET US DOWN!!


ALL THE HEAVY STUFF'S BEEN MOVED!!
GOOD!
YOU COULDN'T'VE FOUND SOMEONE ELSE ..?
HOW MANY GUYS WHO LOOK GOOD IN A DRESS DO YOU THINK THERE ARE IN STUDENT COUNCIL?

I'VE STILL GOT ONE MORE PERFOR-MANCE.
IT'S SUCH A PAIN TO CHANGE, SO...
Like you should talk?
WHAT TH' HECK KINDA OUTFIT'S THAT!?
WHAT ... WHY ...
YOU LOOKED GREAT OUT THERE, THO!
I CAN'T BELIEVE I MISSED YOU GUYS...
ALSO, DON'T QUOTE ME ON THIS, BUT I HEAR MITSURU-SEMPAI'S GONNA BE IN DRAG!!
OH! DON'T FORGET ABOUT SHINOBU-SEMPAI'S PLAY! IT'S AT 3:30 IN THE GYM—LET'S CHECK IT OUT!
OH-H-H YEAH...
PUT THIS ON TOO, WHILE YOU'RE AT IT...
NOW THAT IS A GREAT IDEA!
DWAH ?
KER—PLOP
...HEY-Y-Y, I KNOW! WHY DON'T YOU JUST STAY LIKE THAT?
THEN ALL THREE OF US CAN TAKE A PHOTO !!
LIKE HE NEEDS THE EXCUSE OF A PLAY TO...

THANKS TO EVERYONE FOR COMING!
...AN-N-ND THAT'S THE END OF "TSURU NO ONGAESHI" BY CLASS 1-C.
CLAP CLAP CLAP
CLAP CLAP CLAP
BRAVO BRAVO
BRAVO (BRAVA!)
BRAVOBRAVOBRAVO
GOOD JOB, KIDDO.
YOU WEREN'T HALF BAD, YOURSELF.
SUKA-CHAN—!
AW, IT WASN'T SO BAD...
AT LEAST IT'S FINALLY OVER, HUH?
YOU GUYS WERE AWE-SOME!!

YAAY, SHIGE-CHAN!!
GO TEACHERS!
...A LITTLE MUSIC, COURTESY OF THE FACULTY. ENJOY!
UP NEXT ...
CLAP CLAP CLAP
HRAAAH
?
STOP.
OWW!
BUMP
LET'S GO STRAIGHT TO THE DRESSING ROOMS. I BET ALL THE SEMPAI ARE IN THERE.
DUM DEE DUM
HEAR THAT? THE TEACHERS' BAND IS STARTING.
BUT WHY—
WHY'D YOU STOP ALL OF A—
SHH!
NOT SO LOUD, 'KAY?

UH UM
UM UH
STOP.
SIGH
KYUU
YADA YADA
YOU EVER SEE HIM BEFORE?
THAT GUY.
!
SHII...
GIJA
OKAY, ENOUGH!
I'VE COME THIS FAR— I CAN'T TURN BACK NOW.
ISN'T...
...THAT SHUN'S VOICE?
YOU'RE IN THERE, AREN'T YOU? COULD YOU C'MERE?
SEMPAI! SHINOBU-SEMPAI!
WAAAH!
I, UM, UH ...
MAY I ASK WHAT YOU'RE DOING?

LISTEN, CAN YOU KEEP THE NOISE DOWN OUT THERE? IT'S...
OH, HEY. I KNOW YOU!
AM I... JEALOUS?
PUSH.
HASUKAWA. IT'S YOU.
UH!
M-MASTER SHINOBU!!
Couldn't Shinobu-sempai at least have not—
Y-YES, SIR. I'M SORRY, SIR.
ON ORDERS OF MISTRESS NAGISA, ANY MOMENT NOW..
MY SISTER'S NOT WITH YOU, IS SHE?
WHAT'S GOING ON HERE?
M-MASTER SHINOBU, PLEASE, THERE'S... THERE'S NO TIME!
HURRY!

WHAT'S WRONG WITH THIS PICTURE? ED.

WHAT DID YOU SAY !?
I BELIEVE YOU'VE ALREADY SEEN THE WARNING LETTERS, SIR. .
WHUH...
...WE'LL BE OBLIGED TO TURN ON THE SCHOOL SPRINKLER SYSTEM.
WE'VE BEEN INSTRUCTED TO INITIATE THE PLAN JUST AS YOUR PLAY STARTS.
THE 3RD FLOOR WAS MINE, BUT EACH FLOOR HAS ITS OWN OPERATIVE, AND THERE'S ALSO ONE ON THE MAIN GROUNDS.
OH, YOU MEAN ...
NOT THE "MIGHTY RAIN"?
BUT WHAT DO YOU WANT US TO DO?
BOO HOO HOO HOO
...IN LIGHT OF ALL THE HARD WORK AND DEDICATION YOU'VE ALL PUT INTO THIS, I JUST COULDN'T BEAR—
. AND I DO HATE TO GO ROGUE ON MY FELLOW OPERATIVES, BUT...
I'M NOT UNSYMPATHETIC TO MISTRESS NAGISA'S CONCERNS...

WE CAN STILL STOP THIS!!
IT ISN'T TOO LATE!
WHAT ABOUT THE PA SYSTEM?
IT'S ALL GONE SO WELL UP TILL NOW!
IF WE COULD GET THE MESSAGE OUT ALL OVER SCHOOL—
IT'D PROBABLY CAUSE A PANIC.
NO GOOD.
CAN WE COUNT ON YOUR SUPPORT TO STOP THEM?
DAMN STRAIGHT!
WE'VE RECEIVED NEWS THAT SOMEONE'S TRYING TO RUIN THE SCHOOL FESTIVAL!
OHMIGOSH !!
ATTENTION, STUDENT COUNCIL!
THEN LET'S GO!
GOT IT.
SHINOBU!
I NEED YOU TO GO BUY US SOME TIME ON STAGE!

AW, NUTS! THAT'S—
THERE! THAT'S HIM!!
DASH
HOW'D YOU CATCH ON?
TMPTMPTMP
DON'T LET 'IM RUN!!
FIVE MORE MINUTES ...
YEAH?
TAP TAP

WHAT THE HECK ?!
I HEARD SOME-THING'S UP!
WE'VE GOT TROUBLE!
HURRY !!
CLOMP CLOMP CLOMP CLOMP CLOMP
DON'T YOU LET THEM GET AWAY WITH THIS!
GOTCHA!
SHUN—1ST FLOOR! HASUKAWA—HIT THE MAIN GROUNDS!
NO WAY!

SO CU-U-UTE!!
SUMIRE, I...
YOU'RE...
IT'S CUTE... REALLY, REEEALLY CUTE!
IT SUITS YOU! YOU TOOK PICTURES, I HOPE?
WHAT'S WITH THE GIRLS' KIMONO? YOU WEREN'T IN A PLAY...
...WERE YOU? WHY DIDN'T YOU TELL ME?
...YEAH. TELL ME ABOUT IT.
UM... THAT WAS...
OH, YOU ARE? SILLY ME.
SEE YOU LATER, THEN, OKAY?
I-I'M KIND OF IN A HURRY, SO...
YES?
S-SUMIRE, YOU TH-THAT IS, I—

YIYO, U'RE—
HOW'S IT HANGIN'?
IT'S ME, PAL.
BUT WHO'D DO SUCH A THING?
C'MON, WE GOTTA MOTOR!
LAST FIGHT
CLOSING CEREMONIES
THEY'RE OUT T' WRECK CLOSING CEREMONIES!
Y' HEAR?
Yakkun!!
ANYONE SUSPICIOUS NEAR A SPRINKLER SWITCH!
WHO'RE WE LOOKIN' FOR, THOUGH?

IKEDA !!
JUMP
AHHHH
TH HELL?
GWOK
WAAAH!
What? What?
WHAT'D I...?
?

FOR THE TIME BEING, THOUGH, KEEP A GOOD EYE ON HIM!
I'M OFF TO FIND THE OTHER TWO.
TOSSING HIM OUT SHOULD BE ENOUGH.
NO NEED.
WHAT SHOULD WE DO? SHOULD WE CALL THE POLICE?
THIS IS A SIGNAL FLARE! WHY ON EARTH WOULD—
HE'S OVER THERE !!
THERE HE IS !!
I MUST BE THE NEW GUY.
NRGH...
HE WON'T MAKE IT IN TIME!
WHERE'S HASUKAWA ?!

THANKS, MAN.
WE'VE DONE OUR PART— NOW IT'S UP TO YOU!
BE READY ON MY GO.
BAM!
FINE! OPEN THE CURTAINS!!
IT'S FINALLY STARTING!
OUR APOLOGIES, LADIES AND GENTS, FOR THE LATE START...
WHOEVER'S PLAYING THE KING IS REALLY CUTE, TOO!
He really is cute!
HOLY— IS THAT IKEDA?!

TOSS!
HAH! DIDN'T KNOW WHO THEY WERE MESSIN' WITH!
REGARDS TO SHINOBU'S SISTER!
UH-OH, SEMPAI— BAD NEWS! WE'RE PAST CURTAIN CALL!
THANKS FOR COMING!
TMP TMP TMP TMP
締
締切
GYEH!
TMP TMP TMP TMP TMP TMP TMP
NO.
WE CAN'T STALL 'EM MUCH LONGER, PREZ...
IKEDA-SEMPAI!!
LATE CURTAIN.
YUP.

SO, YAKKUN.
WHAT WAS THAT ALL ABOUT ?!
DARN IT! WE SHOULD'VE FORCED HIM TO DO BOTH NIGHTS!!
HIS GIRLFRIEND CAME ALL THE WAY TO WATCH HIM.
SO THAT'S WHY HE'D ONLY DO IT THE FIRST NIGHT!
CHECK OUT YOSHI-TAKE.
EEE! EEE! EEE!
WHERE IS HE?!
SO, UM, TEZUKA? IS IKEDA-SEMPAI...
YOU CAN TELL ME! C'MON! TELL ME!
HE LOVES FESTIVALS!
KLATA
WHERE CAN HE HAVE ...
NOW, THEN ...
TELL YOU WHAT, GIRLS: HOW 'BOUT I GO FIND HIM FOR YOU?
NOWHERE TO BE FOUND...
OH, WOULD YOU?

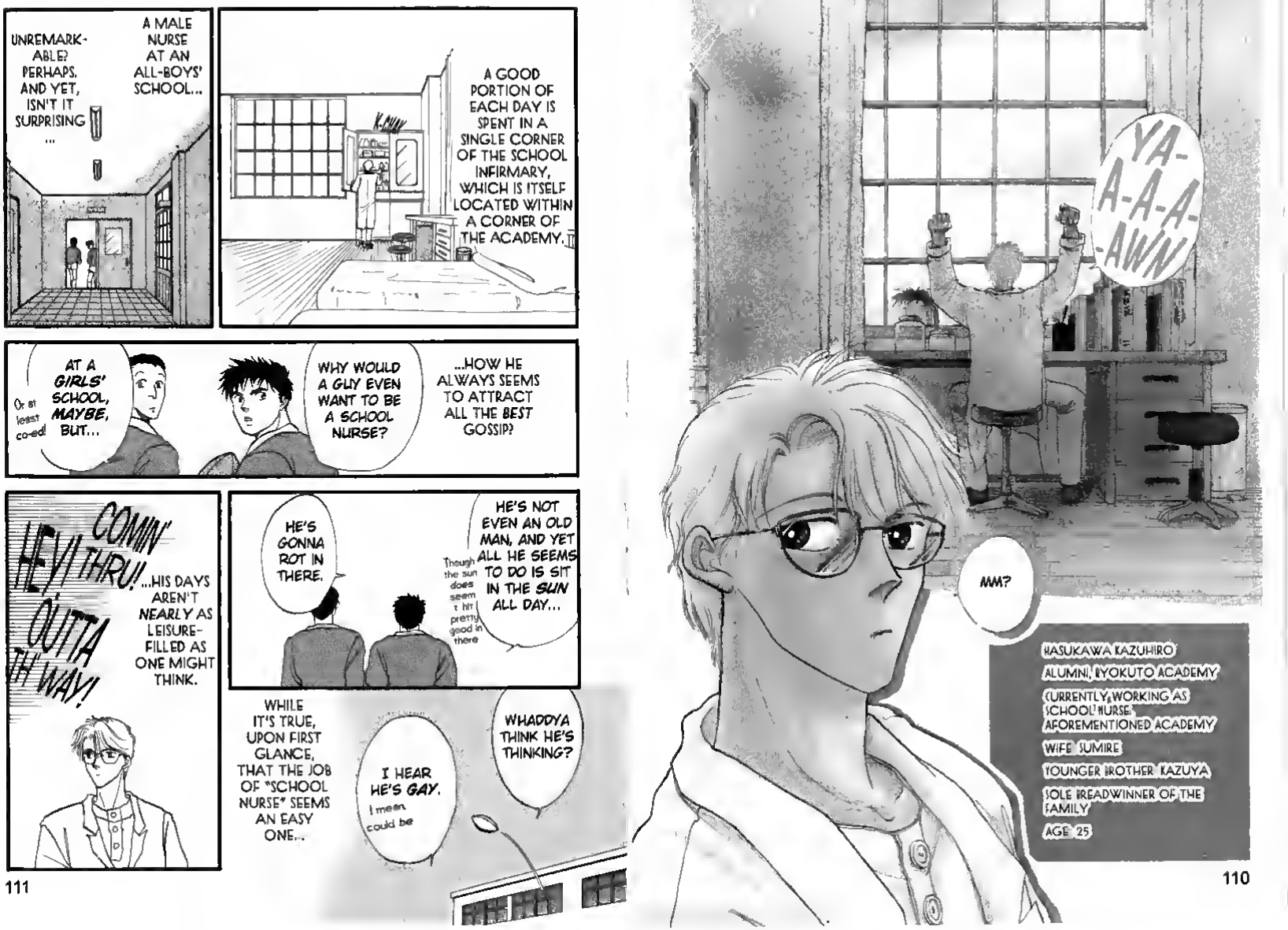
WE THANK YOU FOR HONORING US WITH YOUR TIME...
THIS CONCLUDES THE ON-STAGE EVENTS.
STOOPING SLIGHTLY
CLAP
CLAPCLAP
CLAP
CLAP
CLOSING CEREMONIES START AT 6.00 P.M. ON THE MAIN GROUNDS, SO...

I GUESS THIS MAKES US EVEN NOW, HUH?
YEAH, RIGHT.
YOU AND I, MY FRIEND, ARE NOT EVEN CLOSE.
...PLEASE.
LOOK, THERE HE IS!
WHY DID YOU LEAVE? WHERE DID YOU GO?
I KEEP FALLING FURTHER AND FURTHER INTO YOUR DEBT...
BOOM
OWW...
YOU GOT MILES YET TO GO, MY MAN.
WHA...?
YOU GONNA KEEP YOUR FANS WAITING?
OH-H-H, MAN...
HUH? ...UH, SORRY 'BOUT THAT. I WAS JUST TRYIN' TO CATCH A QUICK...

THE FAMILY HASUKAWA
(PART ONE)

AND SO, THE 64TH ANNUAL RYOKUTO ACADEMY CULTURAL FESTIVAL...
...COMES TO ITS UNEVENTFUL CONCLUSION.
DID I MENTION YOU'RE ALL FIRED? NO?! YOU'RE ALL FIRED!!
SHINOBU WILL COME AFTER ME!!
SHINOBU WILL COME AFTER ME.
SHINOBU WILL COME AFTER ME.
LISTEN UP: YOU DON'T TELL ANYONE WHERE I'M GOING, YOU GOT THAT?
YOU TELL, I KILL YOU!!
THE FUN STARTS HERE: THE END

THE FAMILY HASUKAWA
(PART ONE)

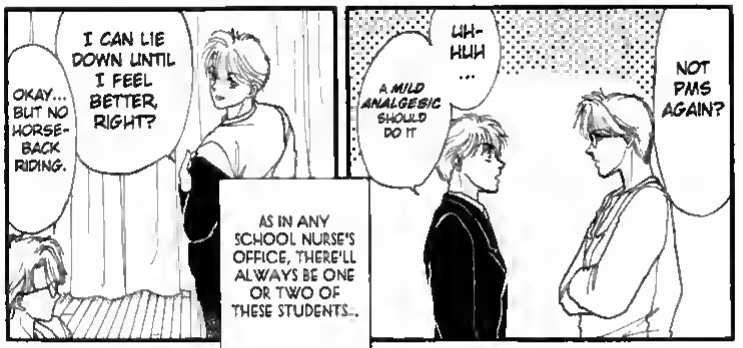

YA-A-A-A-AWN
MM?
HASUKAWA KAZUHIRO
ALUMNI, RYOKUTO ACADEMY
CURRENTLY WORKING AS SCHOOL NURSE AT AFOREMENTIONED ACADEMY
WIFE SUMIRE
YOUNGER BROTHER KAZUYA
SOLE BREADWINNER OF THE FAMILY
AGE 25
A GOOD PORTION OF EACH DAY IS SPENT IN A SINGLE CORNER OF THE SCHOOL INFIRMARY, WHICH IS ITSELF LOCATED WITHIN A CORNER OF THE ACADEMY.
A MALE NURSE AT AN ALL-BOYS' SCHOOL...
UNREMARKABLE? PERHAPS. AND YET, ISN'T IT SURPRISING ...
AT A GIRLS' SCHOOL, MAYBE, BUT...
Or at least co-ed!
WHY WOULD A GUY EVEN WANT TO BE A SCHOOL NURSE?
...HOW HE ALWAYS SEEMS TO ATTRACT ALL THE BEST GOSSIP?
COMIN' HEVI THRU!
ÒUTTA TH' WAY!
...HIS DAYS AREN'T NEARLY AS LEISURE-FILLED AS ONE MIGHT THINK.
HE'S GONNA ROT IN THERE.
Though the sun does seem t hit pretty good in there
HE'S NOT EVEN AN OLD MAN, AND YET ALL HE SEEMS TO DO IS SIT IN THE SUN ALL DAY...
WHILE IT'S TRUE, UPON FIRST GLANCE, THAT THE JOB OF "SCHOOL NURSE" SEEMS AN EASY ONE...
I HEAR HE'S GAY.
I mean, could be
WHADDYA THINK HE'S THINKING?

I'VE GOT SOMETHING ON MY MIND.
SENSEI, I...
HE'S ALSO THE SCHOOL COUNSELOR.
...THE SCHOOL NURSE HAS AN EVEN MORE IMPORTANT DUTY.
BEYOND THE USUAL ILLNESSES AND INJURIES...
NEEDLESS TO SAY, CONFIDENTIALITY IS ESSENTIAL.
That's totally normal at your age
My (BLANK) is just so (BLANK) when I (BLANK)...
Sure you do, uh-huh, go on.
I just feel so negative, lately.
BUT ALSO...
WITH THE SCHOOL NURSE, IT ALL COMES DOWN TO TRUST.
MY STOMACH'S REEEALLY UPSET...
"WOBBLE" "WOBBLE"
SENSEI ...

SOMETHING WRONG, KAZUYA?
NO! NOTHING !!
PLEASE! HE NEEDS HELP !!
WAAAH!
THANK GOODNESS YOU'RE OKAY.
BUT THIS CAME FLYING OUT OF NOWHERE AND SMACKED HIM IN THE FACE!
THE JOB OF A SCHOOL NURSE IS A BUSY ONE, INDEED.
TOTAL STUDENT BODY: 700. WITH THAT MANY YOUNG MEN IN RESIDENCE, A FEW BANGED KNEES AND SCRAPES ARE TO BE EXPECTED.
AND HOW'D THIS BOOKEND COME TO HIT HIM, AGAIN?
Y' GOT ME ...
WE, LIKE, FIGHT TO BRING HIM HERE, 'CAUSE HE HATES IT SO MUCH...
C'MON DON'T...
WWW!!

MAY I...
...SPEAK WITH YOU A MOMENT?
YES?

WHAT'S SHE LIKE?
SENSEI ...
YOU'RE A MARRIED MAN, AREN'T YOU?
IT'S OKAY ...
YOU CAN TALK TO ME ABOUT ANY-THING.
I'M SORRY ...
I OUGHTN'T HAVE TROUBLED YOU.


OKAY... BUT NO HORSE-BACK RIDING.
I CAN LIE DOWN UNTIL I FEEL BETTER, RIGHT?
AS IN ANY SCHOOL NURSE'S OFFICE, THERE'LL ALWAYS BE ONE OR TWO OF THESE STUDENTS...
UH-HUH ...
A MILD ANALGESIC SHOULD DO IT
NOT PMS AGAIN?

K-CHAK

EXCUSE ME...

I DON'T KNOW, OKAY?
IT WAS THE END OF P.E., SIXTH PERIOD, WHEN...
WHAT HAPPENED TO YOUR FACE, MAN?
THAT'S GOTTA HURT.
...SOMEONE CHUCKED IT AT YOU?
...OUT OF NO-WHERE?
There, see?
BESIDES, HOW CAN YOU NOT TORTURE HIM WHEN HIS REACTION IS JUST SO...
The voice of experience!
KTHUNK
HEY, I'VE NEVER BROKEN ANY BONES, HAVE I?
YOUR DAILY TORTURE OF HIM IS FORGOTTEN THE MOMENT YOU DO IT, ISN'T IT?
WHAT'RE YOU LOOKING AT ME FOR?
KINDA OVERDOING IT, DON'TCHA THINK?

I'LL TELL YOU, BUT I'M AFRAID I'LL HAVE TO BRAG...
...?
OH, GEEZ...
JUST LOOK AT YOUR POOR FACE!!
POKE POKE
YOU'RE NOT HELPING, YOU KNOW!
WHILE HIS YOUNGER BROTHER WAS BORN UNDER WHAT YOU MIGHT DESCRIBE AS AN UNLUCKY STAR.
HASUKAWA KAZUHIRO, SCHOOL NURSE, THE MAN UPON WHOM THE HEALTH OF THE HEARTS AND MINDS OF RYOKUTO ACADEMY STUDENTS DEPEND...
HIS WIFE REALLY IS WHAT YOU'D CALL "CUTE"...

LUCKY YOU'RE NOT DEAD, MAN.
WHATCHA DOING?
IT'S KINDA OBVIOUS, ISN'T IT!?
IT HAPPENED AGAIN!!
NGH!
THERE!
SO, UH, HASU-KAWA?
SOME-BODY PUSHED ME!!
UWAAAAAH!
DOND

BRR-R-R-R!!
ACHOOO!
SNIFF
YEAH, WELL ...
GUESS I SHOULDN'T EXPECT SYMPATHY FROM THE LIKES OF THEM...
IT'S ALMOST WINTER BREAK ...
THAT'S RIGHT ...
THIS IS SO STUPID ...
NOBODY HAS TO WORRY ABOUT ME!
DON'T LEAVE ME STUCK HERE WITH JUST KAZUHIRO!
COME HOME SOON, YAKKUN, OKAY?
OKAY?
...YEAH, RIGHT.

WHY DON'TCHA USE THAT STETHO-SCOPE 'ROUND YOUR NECK AND FIND A CLUE!!
WHAT THE HELL DID YOU DO THAT FOR?
I HAVEN'T UPSET YOU, HAVE I, LITTLE BUDDY?
TOTAL DISCRIMI-NATION
THIS IS EXACTLY WHY I TOLD HIM TO FIND A REAL JOB!!
DON'T YOU START...
THINK I'M YOUR BIG BROTHER'S TYPE, SUKA-CHAN?
I SAW IT MYSELF!
CALL ME "LITTLE BUDDY" ONE MORE TIME AND I SWEAR I'LL—
...YEAH, I HEARD IT, TOO.
SEMPAI ?
I WAS TAKING A BREAK IN THE INFIR-MARY, AND...
I REALLY DID.

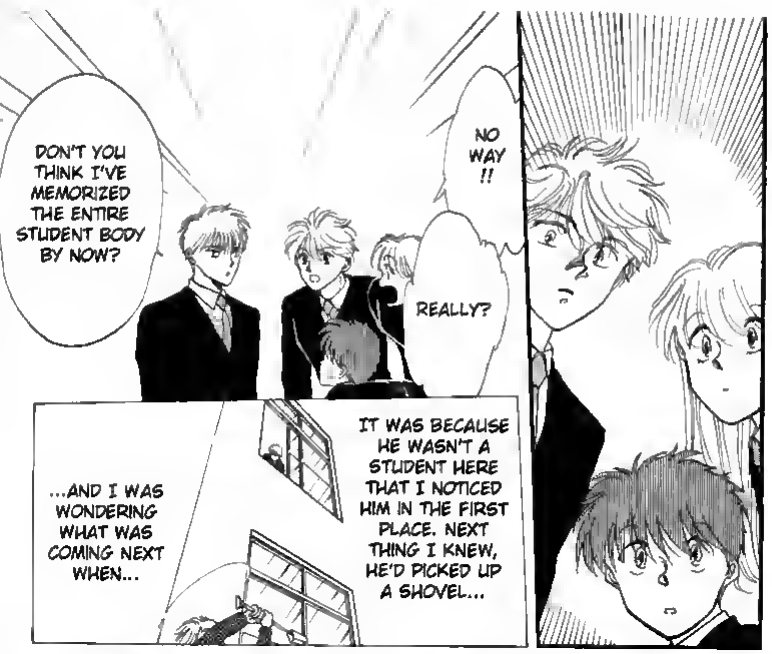
THE RUMOR, MAN.
YOU DIDN'T KNOW?
WHAT RUMOR ?
IS THE RUMOR TRUE THAT YOUR BROTHER'S, LIKE, GAY?
SICK IS SICK, BUT... EVERY SINGLE DAY?
IT'S JUST, YOU HEAR STUFF, Y' KNOW? LIKE THIS ONE GUY— THEY SAY HE'S IN THERE EVERY SINGLE DAY!
...AND THIS ONE GUY, HE SAYS HE'S SEEN 'EM, LIKE, HOLDIN' EACH OTHER AN' STUFF.
THEY MUST KNOW EACH OTHER REALLY WELL...
SMACK!
Infirmary
HEY!
WE'D BEEN THINKING IT WAS A JOKE UP 'TIL NOW, BUT...
HASU-KAWA ...?

CAREFUL GOING HOME.
YOU OKAY? I COULD GO WITH YOU...
SEE? NOW THAT WAS NO ACCIDENT.
SOMEBODY'S DEFINITELY OUT TO GET HIM.
ENOUGH, ALREADY ~!!
I KNOW!
IT'S JUST, WHO'D HAVE ANYTHING AGAINST HIM, Y' KNOW?
AS IF I WEREN'T ALREADY STUCK WITH MY FAMILY'S SHAME...
KLOK
SEMPAI ...
FWIP
IT'S NOT LIKE HE CHOSE TO BE THAT WAY, RIGHT?
MAYBE THE GAY LOVER'S LITTLE BROTHER IS PISSED OFF, OR...

HE WAS KINDA CUTE, COME TO THINK OF IT... I'D'VE DONE HIM.
ALL NOSY LIKE THAT. I'LL BET THAT'S WHO THEY'RE TALKING ABOUT.
"SO, WHAT'S SHE LIKE, YOUR WIFE?"
SO ARE LOTS OF GAY GUYS.
IT'S CALLED A "BEARD," MY FRIEND.
LOOK, MY BROTHER IS MARRIED, OKAY?
BOMP
HASUKA... WA...
RRRGH!
SLAM
... IJITS.
SPLOOSH
YOU OKAY?
BOY, HAS HE GOT ISSUES!
AFTER THAT...

HA...
HASU-KAWA!!
ARE YOU OKAY!?
WH...?
YOU ALL RIGHT, HASU-KAWA?
TMP...
SHI-NOBU!
YOU'RE BUILT TOUGHER THAN I THOUGHT!
WHERE THE HELL'D THIS COME FROM!?
A SMALL COAL-STOVE SHOVEL!

SHINOBU-SEMPAI, YOU DIDN'T--
YOU THINK I'D PULL A DIRTY STUNT LIKE THAT?
...IS NOT A STUDENT AT THIS SCHOOL.
THE GUY WHO JUST THREW THAT SHOVEL AT YOU...


DON'T YOU THINK I'VE MEMORIZED THE ENTIRE STUDENT BODY BY NOW?
NO WAY!!
REALLY?
...AND I WAS WONDERING WHAT WAS COMING NEXT WHEN...
IT WAS BECAUSE HE WASN'T A STUDENT HERE THAT I NOTICED HIM IN THE FIRST PLACE. NEXT THING I KNEW, HE'D PICKED UP A SHOVEL...

AND YOU COULDN'T HAVE STOPPED HIM, OF COURSE.
...HE THREW IT AT YOU, HASU-KAWA--- JUST LIKE THAT!

HE MAY STILL BE IN THE AREA.
WHY WOULD HE GO TO THE TROUBLE OF MAKING ONE OF OUR SCHOOL UNIFORMS?
LET'S SAY EVERYTHING SO FAR CAN BE TRACED BACK TO THIS GUY...

MAKES SENSE.
CONSIDER FOR A MOMENT THE JEALOUSY ASSOCIATED WITH HASUKAWA BEING THE YOUNGER BROTHER. IN THAT LIGHT...
THAT CAN'T BE!!
OOH! A GAY COUPLE IN THE INFIRMARY !!
MY BROTHER KAZU-HIRO'S—?
HE CAN'T BE...
AND WHY WOULD HE BE JEALOUS OF ME?
THAT CAN'T BE...
BUT ...
THOUGHTS RUN WILD!
THOUGH THIS IS AS FAR AS HIS MIND WILL LET HIM GO
IT'S REALLY GETTING TO HIM...
HE'S NOT GONNA WANT THOSE THINGS IN HIS HEAD ...

WHAT?
THAT'S THE GUY FROM THE INFIRMARY!!
I SAW HIM ...
GEH!
THERE HE IS!
THAT'S HIM.
!
IT LOOKS LIKE...
...THAT "RUMOR" MIGHT BE...
GROUP VOICE

THERE HE IS!
CAN YOU HEAR THEM?
WONDER WHAT THEY'RE TALKING ABOUT.
SORRY TO BOTHER YOU WITH THIS...
THAT'S RIGHT.
FOR YOU, THIS *IS* "JUST WORK."
I'M INTERRUPTING YOUR WORK, AREN'T I?
MAKING TIME FOR STUDENTS *IS* MY WORK.

A ROGUE STUDENT REALLY SHOULDN'T BE ALLOWED ON SCHOOL GROUNDS ...
SUIKA-CHAN COULD REALLY BE IN *DANGER*, HERE!!
YOU'VE GOTTA *DO* SOMETHING, SEMPAI!
LET'S ROUND HIM UP AND ASK SOME HARD QUESTIONS.
RIGHT!
IT SHOULD BE EASY ENOUGH TO FIND HIM.
EVEN SO...
EVEN AS A JOKE...
FOR HIM TO HAVE DONE SOMETHING LIKE *THIS*...
He brought all the time!!
HE WAS SO POPULAR WITH *GIRLS* IN HIS DAY!
IT *CAN'T* BE... BUT...

WHOA!!
I LOVE YOU, SENSEI!!
SHH!
N—!!
SENSEI, I...
FOR ME, THOUGH, IT'S BEEN...
...WHAT I WANT TO TELL YOU...
YOU'RE THE REASON I'M HERE ...
I MADE UP THAT STUPID STUFF JUST SO I COULD SPEND TIME WITH YOU. THE TRUTH IS...
...ARE MY TRUE FEELINGS, ALL OF THEM.

SO BE IT!!
SO THAT'S IT.
DW AHP
WHILE IT ISN'T MY FIRST-FIRST, IT IS MY FIRST WITH YOU, SO...
I...
THAT IS, I'M...
THE VERY LEAST I OWE YOU IS AN ANSWER.
HERE I'M THE SCHOOL NURSE, AND I HAD NO IDEA WHAT YOU WERE FEELING...
YEEEE!!
LET'S...
WHADDYA SAY WE BE EACH OTHER'S FIRSTS, HUH?

SMACK
UWAAAAAAAAAAAAH
HUH?
KAZUYA ?
HOW DARE YOU DO THIS TO—

WAS IT ALL A LIE!?
TH-THEN WHAT WAS THAT WITH SUMIRE-CHAN, HUH? HUH!?
KAZUYA, LOOK.
I...
YUP
HE'S SERIOUS.
EVEN IF YOU WERE A LOUSY BROTHER, I STILL ALWAYS BELIEVED IN YOU!!
THAT'S WHY I—
THAT'S WHY—
SUMIRE-CHAN REALLY ...
...REALLY IS IN LOVE WITH YOU, STUPID!!
I WON'T LET YOU GET AWAY WITH IT!!
YOU SAID IT!!
I WON'T LET YOU.
NOT TO SUMIRE-CHAN. I...
I ...!!
.....
...?
DE-VIANT!
THIEF !!

THE FAMILY HASUKAWA
(PART TWO)

NOW I SEE WHY.
HEH HEH HEH HEH...
THE RUMORS SAID YOU WERE LIKE THIS...
I CAN'T BELIEVE I LET YOU ADVISE ME ALL THIS TIME!
YOU'RE UNFIT FOR HUMAN SOCIETY !!
MASH-ER!
DROP DEAD, YOU...
HUH?
EEP
I'M TAKING KITANI SUMIRE BACK FROM YOU!!
AHA, SO THIS WHOLE THING...
DOES HAVE AN EXPLA-NATION
NOT TO HIM, IT DOESN'T

COLLEGE?
SO HE'S OVER 18?
BUT IF I REMEMBER CORRECTLY, KANDA-KUN WENT TO A UNIVERSITY IN AMERICA, AFTER HE GRADUATED COLLEGE HERE IN JAPAN.
...I TOOK ACADEMIC LEAVE, AND DID WHAT I HAD TO DO.
I came back to Japan.
THINKING ONLY OF POOR SU-CHAN, SO FAR AWAY IN A FOREIGN LAND...
YOU SHUT UP!!
Have you no shame?
AND YOU PRETENDED TO BE IN HIGH SCHOOL?
YOU HASU-KAWA BROTHERS...
WHO IS THIS GUY, CAROL HISASUE?
URK!
"SU-CHAN"?
...ARE EXACTLY WHO I CAME TO TAKE SU-CHAN AWAY FROM!!

Nurse's Office
COME TO THINK OF IT...
...I'VE YET TO INTRODUCE MYSELF.
KANDA ...?
I'M KANDA TOSHIYUKI.
THOUGH THIS IS THE FIRST TIME WE'VE MET IN PERSON, I'M SURE YOU'RE FAMILIAR WITH THE NAME.
That's right.
NOT THE KANDA, AS IN THE COUSIN SUMIRE'S ALWAYS TALKING ABOUT?

YOU DID!
YOU ACT LIKE WE TOOK HER FROM YOU BY FORCE!
GAH! I HATE HAVING TO WRITE BI-SOCIAL DIALOGUE
AND WHY'RE WE LISTENING TO YOU, AGAIN!?
WAS I THAT CONVINC -ING?
IF GETTING MARRIED TO COVER THE FACT THAT YOU'RE GAY ISN'T AN EVIL ACT, WHAT IS?
URK!
Y' KNOW, IF IT WERE TRUE, THIS SURE WOULD BE ONE SWEET JOB, DON'TCHA THINK?
DON'T THINK YOU'RE GETTING AWAY WITH—
...UWAH?
NAH, HE SUCKED.
I DIDN'T BUY IT. YOU?

WHEN SU-CHAN WAS EIGHT, WE PLEDGED TO SHARE OUR LIVES TOGETHER
WE GOT ALONG SO-O-O WELL—LIKE BROTHER AND SISTER!—FROM THE TIME WE WERE SMALL.
SINCE WHEN DO SIBLINGS GET ALONG?
I PROTECTED SU-CHAN ALL THAT TIME.
I DID WHAT I COULD TO ENCOURAGE HER TO ATTEND AN ALL-GIRLS SCHOOL, IF ONLY TO KEEP THE BAD BUGS AWAY!
SU-CHAN WAS SO BEAUTIFUL ...
SHE WAS THOUGHTFUL OF OTHERS, SO...
innocent
and very loving!
...SHE'D FALLEN UNDER THE EVIL SPELL OF ONE SUCH AS HE.
BRG!
OH MY GOD
NEXT THING I KNEW, THOUGH I'D ONLY TAKEN MY EYES OFF HER FOR A MOMENT...
AND YET SHE IGNORED MY WARNINGS AND WENT OFF TO A CO-ED UNIVERSITY.

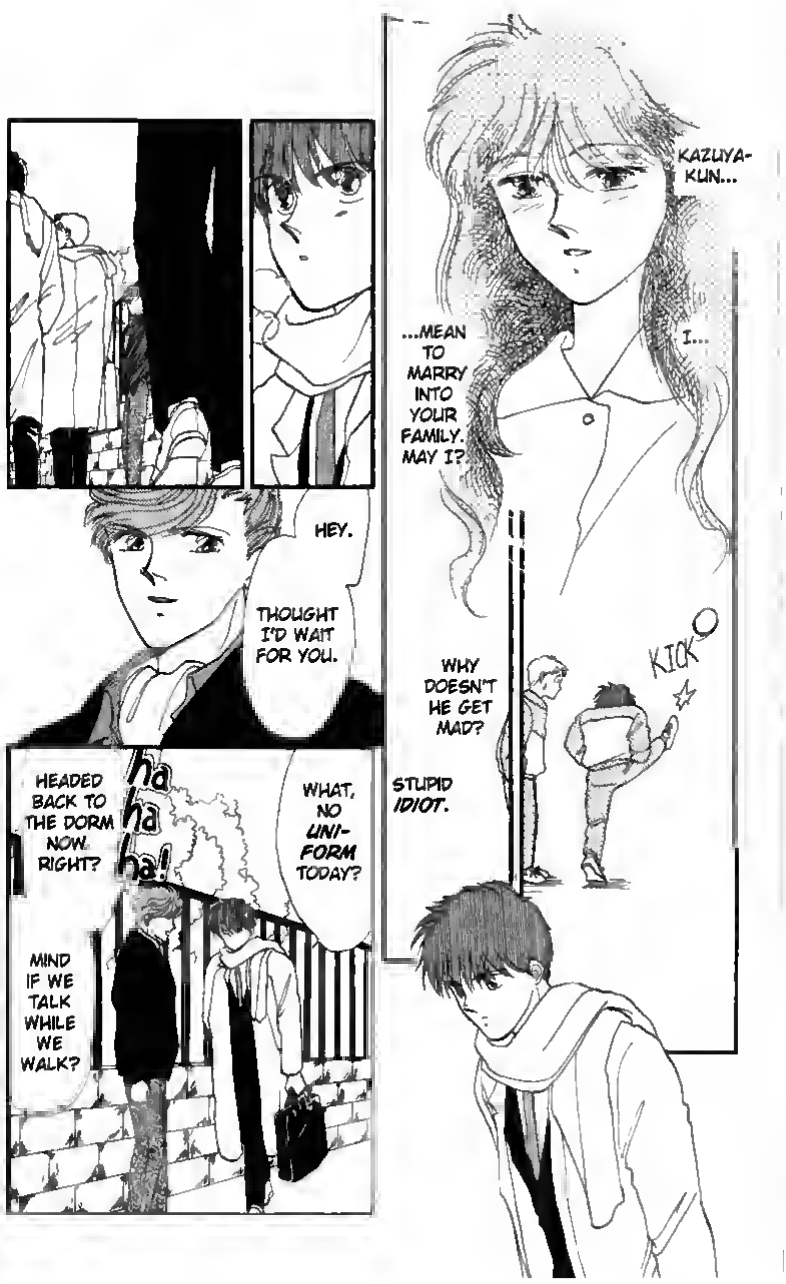
WE'LL SETTLE IT THEN, THOUGH— BETTER BELIEVE IT! WHATEVER YOUR ORIENTATION..
...I'M TAKING SU-CHAN BACK FROM YOU! REMEMBER THAT!!
BEING ON YOUR HOME TURF, I'M OBVIOUSLY AT A DISADVANTAGE; WE'D BEST POSTPONE THIS UNTIL LATER.
SLAM
Shut UP!
HARSHHHH-!
Ooh! Bad words in English! Do some more!!
Ha! Gorcha!
WHO PROMISED TO MARRY EACH OTHER WHEN THEY GREW UP.
SO ... IN OTHER WORDS, THEY'RE CHILD-HOOD PALS?
WHO THE HELL DOES HE THINK HE—
WHA...?

EVEN YOUR OWN YOUNGER BROTHER DOESN'T BELIEVE YOU!
DON'T YOU TRY AND LIE NOW!!
SEE?
WHAT DO YOU THINK?
GRAB
WHAT!?
YOU MEAN IT WAS ALL AN ACT!?
AS IT HAPPENS, THOUGH, THE NATURE OF MY JOB DEMANDS THAT I KNOW EACH AND EVERY STUDENT BY NAME.
LOOK, AS AN ACTOR, YOU WEREN'T HALF BAD.
AREN'T YOU GOING ABOUT THIS ALL WRONG?
Note to self..
UH, BUT MY YOUNGER BROTHER NEVER BELIEVES ME!
HAVE YOU EVEN SEEN HER LATELY?
THEY'RE SO HAPPY, IT'S DIS-GUSTING.
'CAUSE IF WE DON'T HAVE A PROBLEM WITH SOMEONE LIKE HIM BEING WITH HER...
Ugh.
SO WOULD I!
IF THERE'S ANYONE WHO CAN HONESTLY SAY THAT SUMIRE IS UNFORTUNATE.. WELL, I'D LIKE TO MEET HIM.

I HEAR HIS FATHER'S A LAWYER, AND THAT HE'S HOPING TO BECOME ONE HIMSELF.
WOW.
HE WASN'T AT THE WEDDING...
HE DIDN'T LOOK FAMILIAR TO YOU, SENSEI?
IT'S KINDA SWEET, IF YOU THINK ABOUT IT.
ARE THINGS OKAY AT HOME? I HATE TO THINK HE'D SHOW UP ON YOUR DOORSTEP ...
IF HE HAS, NO ONE'S CALLED ...
STILL, ONE NEVER KNOWS.
THE QUESTION IS, WHAT'LL HE DO NEXT?
LAWYER VS. SCHOOL NURSE, HUH?
GASP
WAH HA HAH
FOR ALL WE KNOW, THEY COULD BE GOING AT IT ALREADY!!
LISTEN UP, KAZU-HIRO!!
FWIP

I MEAN, HOW CAN YOU JUST STAND THERE!? HE MADE A FOOL OF YOU—OR WEREN'T YOU PAYING ATTEN-TION?
Whoa!
HE'D BETTER NOT LAY ONE FINGER ON SUMIRE-CHAN, YOU HEAR!?
YOU HEAR ME!?
AREN'T YOU PISSED?
...
...AND I'LL PROTECT SUMIRE-CHAN MYSELF !!
HE SAYS, CLENCHING HIS FISTS MANFULLY
SOON AS TERM'S OVER, I'M HEADING STRAIGHT HOME...
I CAN'T COUNT ON MY BROTHER !!

TOCHIZAWA! GO GET MITSURU-SEMPAI, SHINOBU-SEMPAI, AND THE SCHOOL NURSE. HURRY!
HUH?
AND WHAT'S THIS?
TALK?
...HEY!
TELL THEM, "THE ENEMY HAS INITIATED AN OBLIQUE ATTACK!"
!?
SO?
START TALKING.
I'D ORIGINALLY PLANNED TO WAIT FOR YOU AT THE DORMS...
...WHICH ARE NICE, BY THE WAY...
...THOUGH HARDLY MY PERSONAL TASTE.
IS IT TRUE SU-CHAN'S YOUR FIRST LOVE, TOO?
THIS IS SOME-THING I OVER-HEARD AT SCHOOL
...


HEY.
THOUGHT I'D WAIT FOR YOU.
HEADED BACK TO THE DORM NOW, RIGHT?
WHAT, NO UNI-FORM TODAY?
MIND IF WE TALK WHILE WE WALK?
ha ha ha!
KAZUYA-KUN...
I...
...MEAN TO MARRY INTO YOUR FAMILY. MAY I?
WHY DOESN'T HE GET MAD?
KICK
STUPID IDIOT.

WHA ...?
HOW ABOUT IT? SHALL WE JOIN FORCES?
I ALSO HEAR YOU'RE NOT CLOSE TO YOUR BROTHER.
THAT'S NONE OF YOUR—
WOULDN'T YOU RATHER SU-CHAN NOT BE WITH HIM AT ALL?
IT'S NOT AS THOUGH YOU AND YOUR BROTHER DON'T HAVE ISSUES, RIGHT?
SO, HOW ABOUT IT? LET'S WORK TOGETHER AND GET SU-CHAN HER FREEDOM
I MEAN, YOU HAVE JUST AS MUCH RIGHT TO TRY FOR HER AS ANYONE ELSE.
WHAT WOULD BE THE POINT?
SU-CHAN'S FEELINGS ...
HOW DO THINK SHE'D FEEL ABOUT IT?
BESIDES ...
...YOU SHOULDN'T TRY THIS STUFF WITHOUT TALKING TO SUMIRE-CHAN FIRST
Why?
...I CAN'T.
TUP
BECAUSE I DON'T LIKE YOU, THAT'S WHY.

THERE'S SOMETHING WRONG ABOUT SU-CHAN HAVING TO TURN TO SOMEONE LIKE THAT IN A CRISIS.
ADMIRABLE AS IT MAY HAVE BEEN FOR YOUR BROTHER TO HAVE TAKEN OVER RAISING YOU AFTER YOUR PARENTS DIED...
I HEAR YOU BROTHERS HAVE NO OTHER FAMILY.
...IF SOMETHING MAJOR WERE TO HAPPEN, IT WOULD BE SU-CHAN'S FAMILY YOU'D HAVE TO LEAN ON, RIGHT? WHAT KIND OF SUPPORT CAN A MERE SCHOOL NURSE PROVIDE HER?
... SH ...
IF YOU TRULY WANT HER HAPPINESS, IT SHOULD BE OBVIOUS WHERE SHE'LL BE BETTER OFF.
ON THE OTHER HAND, IF SHE WERE WITH ME, SHE'D HAVE NO WORRIES AT ALL.
I'M SURE SHE HERSELF MUST HAVE REALIZED IT BY NOW.
DON'T
SHUT UP!!

LET'S BRING IN SUMIRE AND SETTLE IT.
TIME TO STOP SNEAKING AROUND.
GULP!
IF THAT'S WHAT YOU REALLY THINK, IT'S TIME THIS ENDED.
I'VE HEARD WHAT YOU HAVE TO SAY.
WHY NOT GET YOUR CASE STRAIGHT, THEN COME ON OVER?
SUMIRE WILL BE HAPPY TO SEE YOU, AND ULTIMATELY YOU'LL BE BETTER OFF.
GREAT! SEE YOU THERE.
LET ME COME OVER, AND I'LL SEE FOR MYSELF WHAT KIND OF LIFE YOU'RE PROVIDING FOR HER.
...FINE, THEN. I WILL!

.....
...A-ABOUT ...
WHAT WOULD YOU KNOW ...
HEY...
WAIT!
BUMP
!?

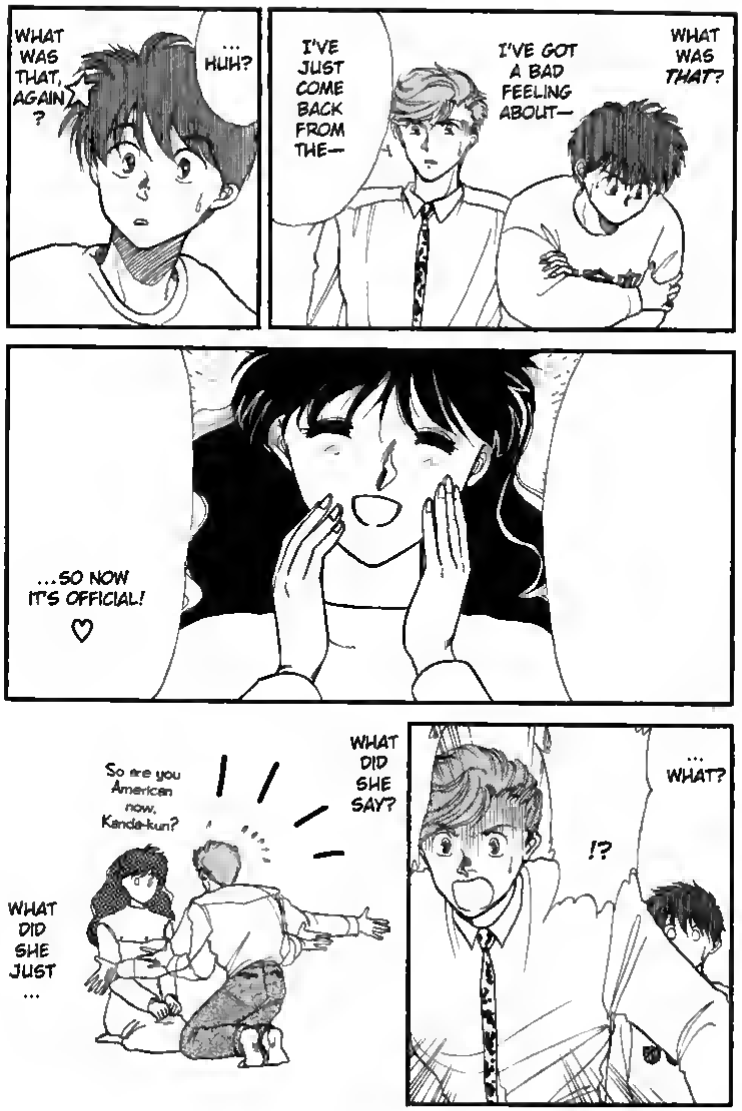
I NEVER GET TIRED OF HEARING PEOPLE SAY GOOD THINGS ABOUT MY BROTHER.
HASUKAWA-SEMPAI'S SUCH A GOOD PERSON...
IT'S TRUE.
YOU HAVE A GOOD BROTHER.
I...
I NEVER...
YOU SURE YOU SHOULD'VE SAID THAT?
DON'T WORRY.
KANDA-KUN WON'T BE ABLE TO SEE SUMIRE JUST YET.
HE MAY BE GEARING UP FOR A FULL ASSAULT AS WE SPEAK.

CHEAP BASTARDS.
KEPT THEIR CHECKS.
AND THAT'S WHY...
...I DID IT.
THEY LOOK AT WHAT YOU DO FOR A LIVING, AND JUDGE YOU.
THEY'VE NO IDEA...
...WHAT KIND OF PERSON YOU REALLY ARE.
PUP
PUP
PUP
AH. I SEE!

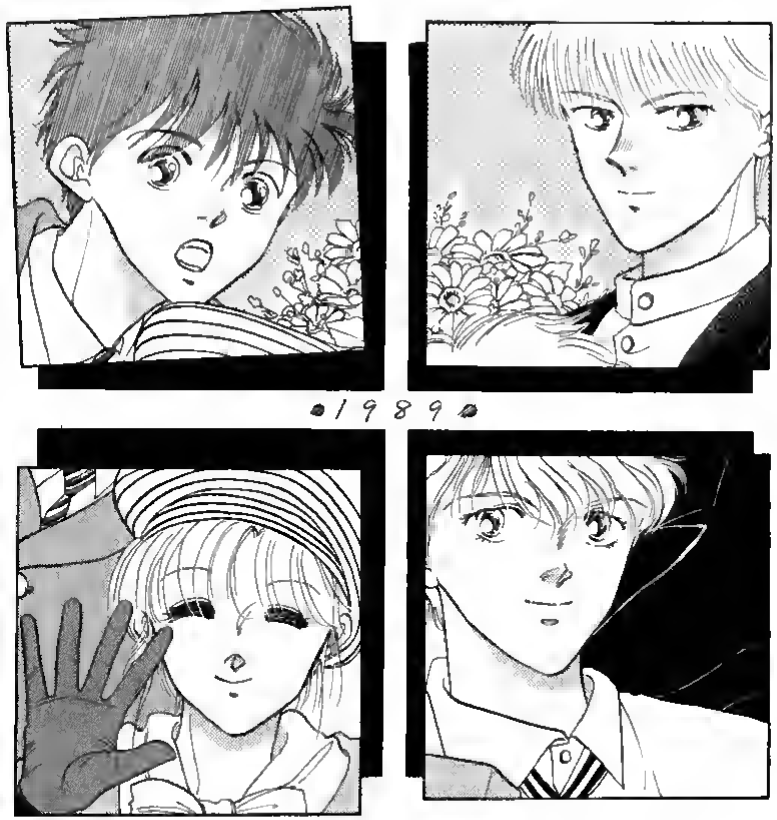
I'M OUTTA HERE.
DAMN HIM!
YES, BUT STILL— HOW DARE HE?
EVEN THOUGH I'VE .
KICK
HEADED HOME ALREADY, HASU-KAWA?
HEY ...
THIS IS RARE.
.. SOME-TIMES HAD TO LIE TO HIM. I ...
I'VE ALREADY TESTED THE WATERS BY BRINGING HIM UP IN CONVERSATION.
IT SEEMS HIS FATHER HAS FORBIDDEN HIM TO RETURN TO JAPAN UNTIL HE'S GRADUATED.
THAT'S WHY HE COULDN'T COME RUNNING THE MOMENT HE FOUND OUT SHE WAS GETTING MARRIED.
UNTIL HE GETS HIS OWN HOUSE IN ORDER, HE DOESN'T DARE COME OVER TO OURS.
THERE'S ALMOST NO CHANCE HE COULD SEE SUMIRE WITHOUT HIS PARENTS EVENTUALLY HEARING ABOUT IT.
WHOA.
TALK ABOUT COVERING THE ANGLES.
MY LIFE'S ONLY MISSION
WAS TO MAKE SURE KAZUYA HAD NOTHING TO CRY OVER.
But you've made him cry plenty!
You are your brother
WOULD I BE WRONG?
'CAUSE HE MADE HASU-KAWA CRY, RIGHT?
BECAUSE I'M TRYING TO DECIDE WHETHER HE SHOULD BECOME A PERMANENT AMERICAN RESIDENT...
THEN WHY NOT LEAVE IT BE?

COME IN, COME IN!
GIVE ME THAT SUITCASE... DID YOU BRING ANY LAUNDRY?
YOU'VE NEVER COME HOME FOR CHRISTMAS BEFORE...
THE COLOR OF HAPPINESS.
HIRO-KUN!
YAK-KUN'S HOME!!
I DID?
OH, RIGHT, HE'S ALREADY HERE. YOU HAVEN'T MET HIM YET, HAVE YOU, YAKKUN?
YOU SAID SOMETHING ABOUT A GUEST?
I'M SURE YOU'LL BE THE BEST OF FRIENDS. ♡
YAKKUN, THIS IS MY COUSIN, KANDA-KUN.
KANDA-KUN! YAKKUN'S HOME!
ALL THE SPITE, DRAINED RIGHT OUT OF HIM.
GO ON, HAVE A SEAT.
DINNER'LL BE DONE IN JUST A SEC. ♡

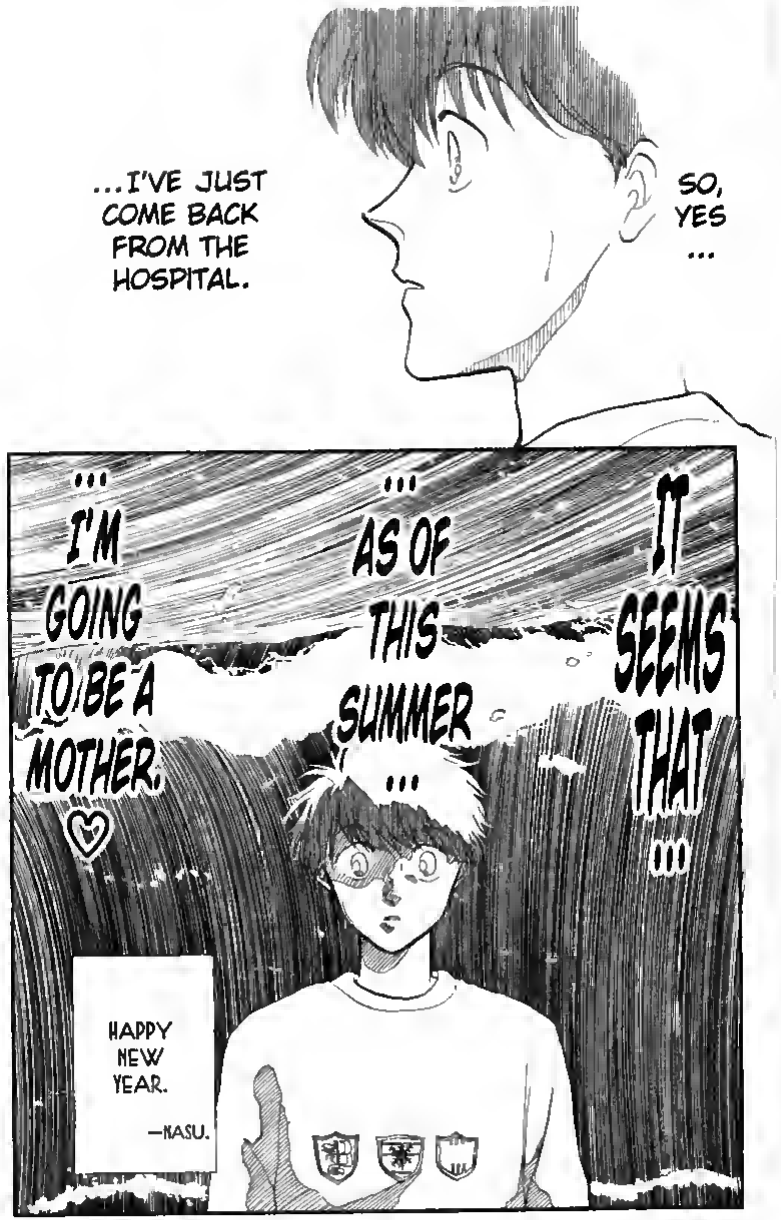
SAY HI TO YOUR SIS-IN-LAW FOR US! ♡
SEE YOU WHEN I GET BACK.
OH, YEAH?
WELL, HANG IN THERE.
I FOUND OUT WHEN I CALLED EARLIER THAT HE MIGHT BE HEADED OVER TONIGHT.
SEE FOR YOURSELF WHETHER SUMIRE-CHAN IS UNHAPPY OR NOT.
COME, IF YOU DARE.
FINE, THEN!
I'M BA-A-ACK!!
KLATA
LIKE WE'D HAND HER OVER TO HIM?
SUMIRE-CHAN IS OUR SUMIRE-CHAN!
HEY, WELCOME HOME!!

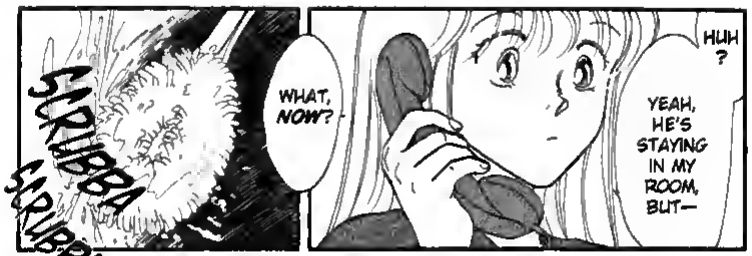

WHAT WAS THAT, AGAIN?
...HUH?
I'VE JUST COME BACK FROM THE—
I'VE GOT A BAD FEELING ABOUT—
WHAT WAS THAT?
...SO NOW IT'S OFFICIAL! ♡
WHAT DID SHE JUST ...
So are you American now, Kanda-kun?
WHAT DID SHE SAY?
...WHAT?
!?

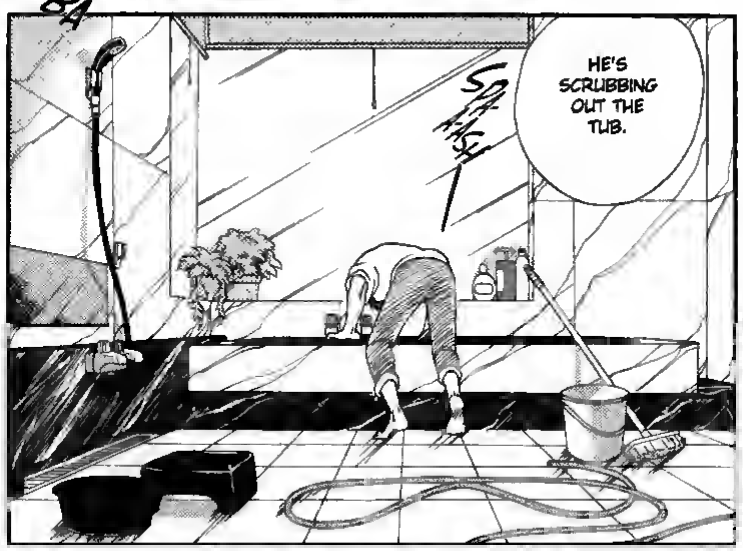
WE SHOULD'VE SHOWN HIM THIS FROM THE START. NOW LET'S SEE HIM COMPLAIN!
WHY DIDN'T I REALIZE IT EARLIER?
SEE?
IOUDA!!
OH, THAT'S RIGHT.
LET THE AURA OF HAPPINESS SURROUND YOU, AND WALLOW IN YOUR OWN DEFEAT!!
SUMIRE-CHAN'S HAPPY. SHE AND KAZUHIRO ARE IN LOVE!
SECRET MOVE "SELF DESTRUCT BLAST"!!
<KNOCK>
PERFECT TIMING!
I'D LIKE YOU TO HEAR IT TOO, KANDA-KUN.
CHILL
SO!
I HAVE SOME NEWS. ♡

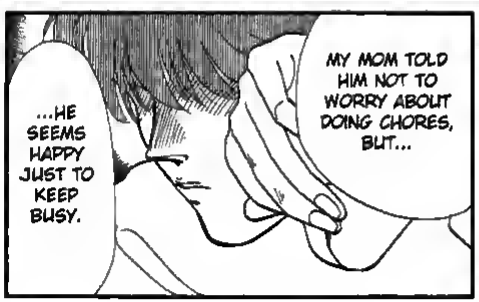


THE FAMILY HASUKAWA
(PART THREE)




SCRUBBA SCRUBBA
WHAT, NOW?
HUH?
YEAH, HE'S STAYING IN MY ROOM, BUT—


SQUEEEK
HE'S SCRUBBING OUT THE TUB.


...HE SEEMS HAPPY JUST TO KEEP BUSY.
MY MOM TOLD HIM NOT TO WORRY ABOUT DOING CHORES, BUT...

Lucky him...
SO, YEAH!
WE LOVE HAVING HIM HERE—NOTHING LIKE AN EXTRA PAIR OF HANDS DURING SPRING CLEANING!

...UH-HUH. UH-HUH. YEAH!
YEAH, IT TOTALLY SHOCKED ME, TOO.

MITSURU, YOU'RE IN THE WAY.
WHO'D'VE THOUGHT HIS BROTHER'S WIFE WOULD...?
SO WHAT HAPPENED WITH KANDA-KUN?

GUESS REALITY DIDN'T MATCH UP WITH IMAGI-NATION.
OH MY GOD
WELL, I TALKED TO NURSE-SENSEI AFTER SUKA-CHAN GOT HERE. IT SEEMS KANDA KINDA LOST IT, AND RAN BACK TO AMERICA WITH HIS TAIL BETWEEN HIS...

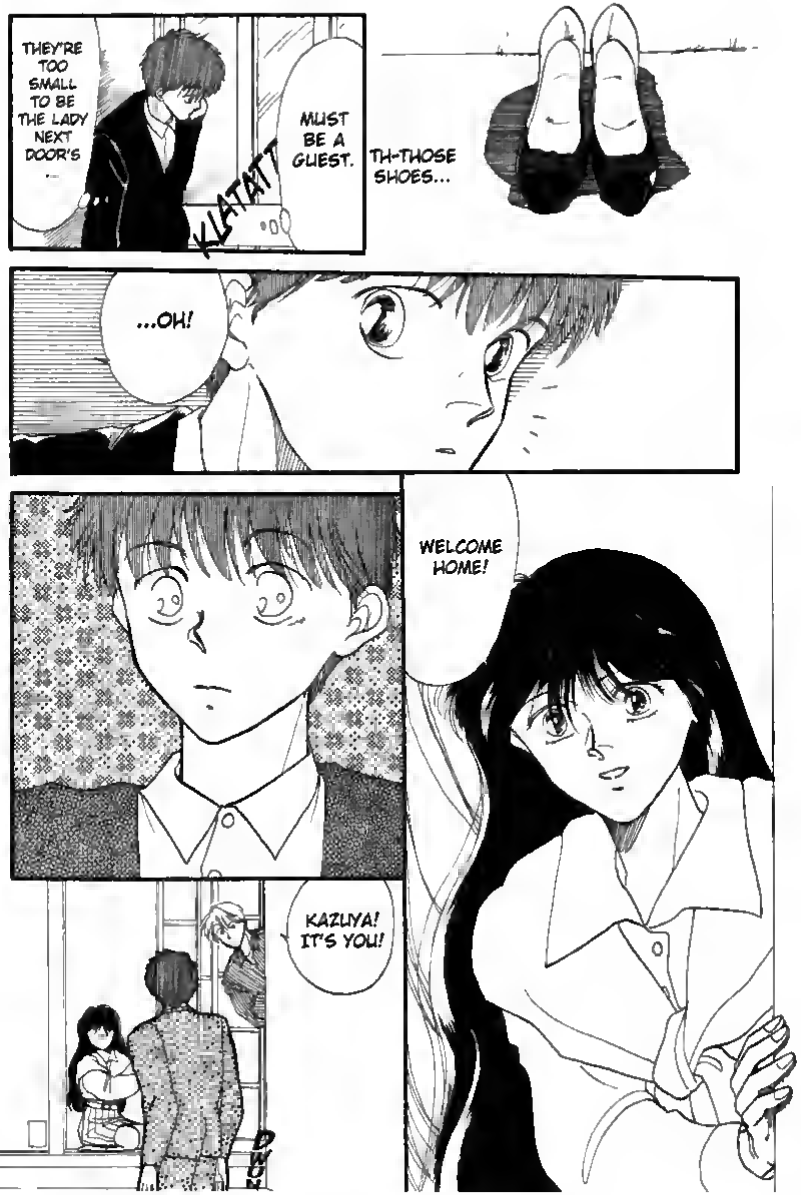
SO I GO TO MEET HIM AT THE TRAIN, AND THERE HE IS NOT SAYING A WORD.
HE CALLS FROM OUT OF NOWHERE AND SAYS, "CAN I CRASH WITH YOU?"
I'M SURPRISED HE DIDN'T GET SCOOPED UP BY THE STATION... COPS ASSUME "TROUBLED TEEN."

NOT THAT I DON'T TOTALLY SYMPATHIZE ...
I'M NOT SURE HE EVEN KNOWS WHAT HE'S FEELING— MAD, SAD, WHO KNOWS?
YEAH? WELL, EVEN IF YOU ARE MARRIED, THERE'S STILL SUCH A THING AS RESTRAINT!!
DUDE, CHILL ...
...BUT HE SHOULD'VE KNOWN IT WAS GONNA HAPPEN SOMEDAY, RIGHT?
I MEAN, THEY ARE MARRIED!
I'M GONNA GO DO SOME YARD WORK.
WHERE ARE YOU...
SUKA-CHAN?
CLICK
CHING!

I SHOULDN'T HAVE TO TELL YOU.
IT'S NOT GOOD FOR YOU, JUST WALLOWING IN IT LIKE THIS...
HEY, C'MON ...
THIS, FROM SOMEONE WALLOWING IN HIS OWN PITY-PARTY?
WHO'RE YOU CALLING A CROSS-DRESSER !?
LOOK, YOU—
HOW WOULD A CROSS-DRESSER LIKE YOU KNOW HOW I FEEL?
LEAVE ME ALONE!
ISN'T THERE SOME WAY TO LET IT GO?
AND HOW 'BOUT SOME CONSIDERATION FOR YOUR FRIENDS, WHILE WE'RE AT IT!?
YOU DIDN'T, DID YOU? SO DON'T START CRYING ABOUT IT NOW!!
DID YOU EVER TELL HER NOT TO MARRY YOUR BROTHER?
HAVE YOU EVEN TOLD SUMIRE-SAN HOW YOU FEEL? LIKE, EVEN ONCE?

KLATT
WELL...
AS IT TURNS OUT, ONE OF THE PEOPLE I WENT TO SCHOOL WITH IS LOOKING FOR PART-TIME WORK AS A HOME TUTOR, SO...
...I'M OFF.
WASH WASH
IF YOU'RE AT ALL INTERESTED, THEY'LL BE COMING BY THIS AFTERNOON.
HO-O-O-O-
LIKE I DON'T KNOW THAT!
...WITH YOUR GRADES AS THEY ARE NOW, I'VE GOTTA WARN YOU, IT'S GONNA BE TOUGH
Now, if you'd consider a public school, you could really...
IT'S NOT THAT I CAN'T UNDERSTAND WHY YOU'D WANT TO GO TO THE SAME HIGH SCHOOL AS YOUR OLDER BROTHER, BUT...
REFLECTION

...NO. I COULDN'T SAY IT.
SLUMP
CHOMP CHOMP CHOMP
IT WAS SPRING—A SUNDAY—AND I'D JUST STARTED MY THIRD YEAR OF JUNIOR HIGH.
THE FIRST TIME I MET HER, I...
TODAY'S A PRACTICE TEST...
WILL YOU BE ALL RIGHT?
I GUESS YOU'VE STILL GOT A YEAR, BESIDES...
...YOU CAN ALWAYS HOPE FOR SOME GOOD RECOMMENDATIONS.
BUT DIDN'T THEY TELL YOU DURING THE LAST ROUND OF MIDTERMS THAT YOUR GRADES WEREN'T GOOD ENOUGH?
DON'T GET ME WRONG...
IT'S NOT THAT I MIND YOUR TRYING TO GET INTO RYOKUTO...


THEY'RE TOO SMALL TO BE THE LADY NEXT DOOR'S...
KLATATT
MUST BE A GUEST.
TH-THOSE SHOES...
...OH!
WELCOME HOME!
KAZUYA! IT'S YOU!

BECOME A FINE, UPSTANDING CITIZEN— LIKE YOUR OLDER BROTHER!
2ND YEAR
BE SURE TO STUDY HARD, FOLLOW ALL THE SCHOOL RULES...
BE POLITE— CONSIDERATE OF OTHERS!
THAT LYING SACK OF—!!
EVEN SO, I'M GOING TO RYOKUTO!
KAZUYA, LISTEN..
WHAT'S IMPORTANT IS TO DO YOUR BEST.
...WHAT IT WAS HE THREW AWAY!!
I'M GONNA GO THE EXACT SAME PATH HE DID, AND MAYBE THEN HE'LL REALIZE ...
I'M HO-O-OME ...
I AM GOING TO RYO-KUTO!
HOW'D IT GO?

SO, SENSEI ...?
Y-YOU WON'T!!
I HOPE I WON'T DISAPPOINT ..
AND SO SUMIRE-CHAN STARTED COMING BY OUR HOUSE ONCE A WEEK.
WELL, LET'S SEE... UM...
THEN WHAT SHOULD I...?
KYA-A-A-A-A-AH!
"SENSEI"? WHAT AM I, AN OLD LADY?
KYAH!
IT'S WHAT MY FRIENDS CALL ME...
I KNOW! HOW'S THIS?
BLUSH
S... SUMIRE-CHA...
"SUMIRE-CHAN"!

SHE WAS NOTHING LIKE THOSE AIRHEADS AT SCHOOL—OR THE OLDER WOMEN IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD, EITHER.
IT WAS LIKE... FLOWERS HAD SUDDENLY BLOOMED.
I'M KITANI SUMIRE— 4TH YEAR, ENGLISH LIT.
ABOUT THE SCHOOL FRIEND OF MINE WHO'S WILLING TO WORK FOR NEXT TO NOTHING AS YOUR TUTOR...?
I TOLD YOU, REMEMBER?
HUH?! UH... WHA?!
WHADDYA SAY? WANNA GIVE IT A GO?
YOU'RE KINDA LOUSY AT ENGLISH, SO IT OUGHTA BE PERFECT, HUH?
NO FOOLING— IT WAS LOVE AT FIRST SIGHT.
IT'S GONNA BE GREAT. WAIT AND SEE!
YAAY! I'M SO GLAD!
BEEP
UH...
S-SURE.

LET'S SEE HOW FAR WE CAN GO!
KEEP THIS UP, AND YOU'LL GET INTO RYOKUTO ACADEMY, NO PROBLEM!
SEEING SUMIRE-CHAN SO HAPPY— AS THOUGH THEY WERE HER GRADES, NOT MINE...
THAT'S WONDER-FUL!
ARE THEY REALLY?
LET'S!
Let's see how far WE can go!
.....
?
I AM GETTING INTO RYOKUTO!!
MY MOTIVA-TIONS CHANGED.

UM, I, UH ...
YOU DID GET ALL THAT, RIGHT?
...AND THAT'S IT.
HWAH ?!
!
SUMIRE-CHAN...
B-BUT THAT'S NOT...
I'M SORRY! IF ONLY I WERE A BETTER TUTOR, YOU'D HAVE...
I SEE ...
...MY SCORES ARE UP..
AND SO ...
REPORT CARD
HASUKAWA, KAZUYA
教科 1 2 3
国語 4
数学 5
英語 4
社会 5
理科 5
体育 5
美術 3
音楽 3
SUMIRE-CHAN ALWAYS DID GIVE IT HER ALL.
OKAY, SO ABOUT THIS "THAT"...
GUESS I'D BETTER BUCKLE DOWN...

HI THERE! ♡ I'M A BIT EARLY, BUT...
SUMIRE-CHAN, WHAT...
STILL, AS I STUDIED FOR THOSE ENTRANCE EXAMS, IT WAS THROUGH A ROSE-COLORED HAZE...
EVEN AFTER SUMMER BREAK STARTED, I WAS NEVER VERY FAR FROM MY BOOKS.
I'LL GO GET STARTED.
...I THOUGHT WE MIGHT EAT TOGE-THER.
IT'S BETTER THAN EATING ALONE, RIGHT?
AWWW
THAT'S WHY ...
...YOUR BROTHER'S OFF ON A RETREAT FOR THE SWIM-CLUB, RIGHT?
NEVER ACTUALLY MADE ANYTHING BUT SWEETS BEFORE →
AW-W-W
SORRY IT'S NOTHING FANCIER THAN CURRY RICE..
HAS ...
...ANYONE EVER COOKED A MEAL FOR YOU GUYS BEFORE?
AS IN A GIRL, I MEAN?
SO, UM... KAZUYA-KUN?

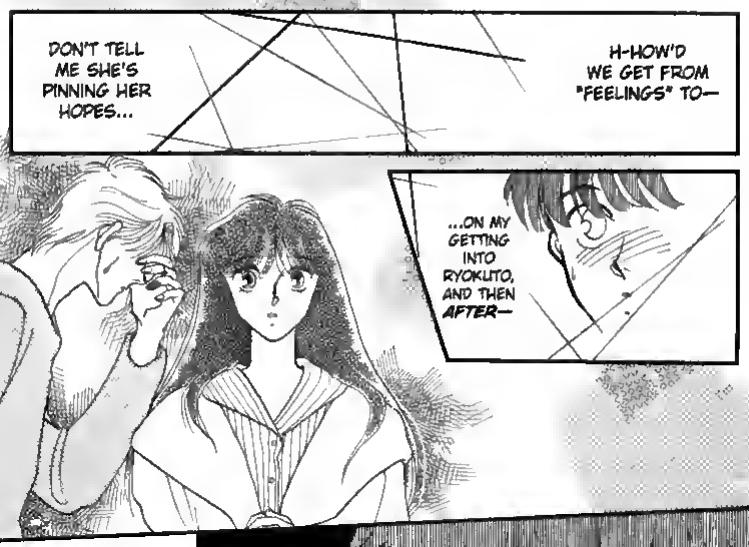
HE'S NOT TOO USED TO BEING AROUND WOMEN, IS ALL.
HE'S NERVOUS, BUT HE'LL GET OVER IT.
I'M SO GLAD!
KAZUYA-KUN FINALLY SEEMS TO HAVE OPENED UP TO ME.
Oh, they're just friends from school.
GIRLS HAVE ALWAYS CHASED AFTER YOU, CALLING THE HOUSE AT ALL HOURS...YOU... WOMANIZER, YOU.
I WAS JUST A KID BACK THEN, SO I ACTUALLY BELIEVED IT.
YEAH, UNLIKE YOU, WHO HANGS OUT WITH NOTHING BUT WOMEN!
YOU CAME HERE FOR ME, SO THE least I CAN DO IS HELP YOU BACK.
OH... ALL RIGHT, THEN.
SO, "SUMIRE-CHAN" .. LET ME WALK YOU TO THE TRAIN STATION.
HUH? BUT...
...
I WON'T LET YOU HAVE HER!

...A GOOD BROTHER TO YOU... ISN'T HE?
EVEN BACK THEN...
Student
nference
Progress
Knock
efore
tering

UH-HUH. AND ON DAYS HE'S LATE, I EAT ALONE.
OH. SO IT'S JUST YOU TWO, THEN?
SO YOU CAN COOK, THEN, KAZUYA-KUN?
N-Not that I ever noticed before now...
KAZUHI—I-I MEAN, MY BROTHER—HE NEVER BRINGS ANYONE TO THE HOUSE, BOYS OR GIRLS.
OH, YES?
MY BROTHER, THOUGH—HE CAN MAKE ALL KINDS OF.
SIMPLE STUFF, SURE.
A-AND HASUKAWA-SEMPAI REALLY IS...
YOU'RE AMAZING, KAZUYA-KUN.
...

WHA!?
UM... KAZUYA-KUN?
HOW DO YOU ...
...FEEL ABOUT ME?
WH-WHERE'S THIS COMING FROM, ALL OF A—
H-HOW DO I F-FUH-FEEL ABOUT...
Oh, no!!
Don't tell me— He's not— Or is he!?
WELL? DO YOU?
YOU DO LIKE ME?
BWONK

WOW!
MY TEST SCORES ARE STILL A LITTLE BORDERLINE, THOUGH, SO...
...AND THEN HE TOLD ME THAT...
THAT'S GREAT!
CLAP CLAP
...MY RECOMMEN-DATIONS SHOULD BE JUST FINE.
...WILL HAVE NO REASON TO COME BACK!
ONCE THE TEST IS OVER, SUMIRE-CHAN...
UH-HUH.
THA...
THAT'S RIGHT.
SO ...
...ALL THAT'S LEFT IS THE TEST ITSELF!
MAYBE I SHOULD TELL HER WHAT I—
B-BUT THAT'S ... WHAT'LL I DO!?
STILL, I...
NO! I CAN'T! I'M SEVEN YEARS YOUNGER THAN HER!!


DON'T TELL ME SHE'S PINNING HER HOPES...
H-HOW'D WE GET FROM "FEELINGS" TO—
...ON MY GETTING INTO RYOKUTO, AND THEN AFTER—

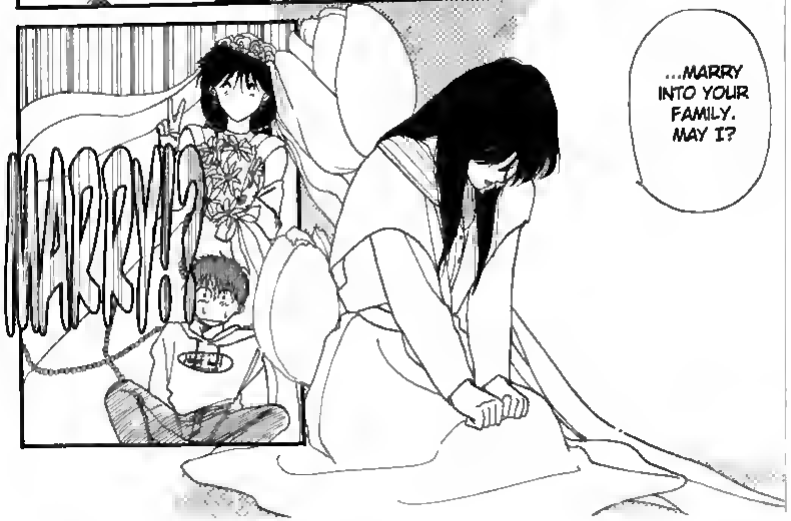
THE ONLY ONE IN THE DARK WAS ME.
SUMIRE-CHAN HAD BECOME MY TUTOR FOR MORE REASONS THAN ONE.
I'D HOPED TO WAIT UNTIL YOU'D FINISHED YOUR ENTRANCE EXAMS BEFORE TELLING YOU, BUT ...
Guess there's no going back now
Sorry Kazuya
EVEN BACK THEN ...

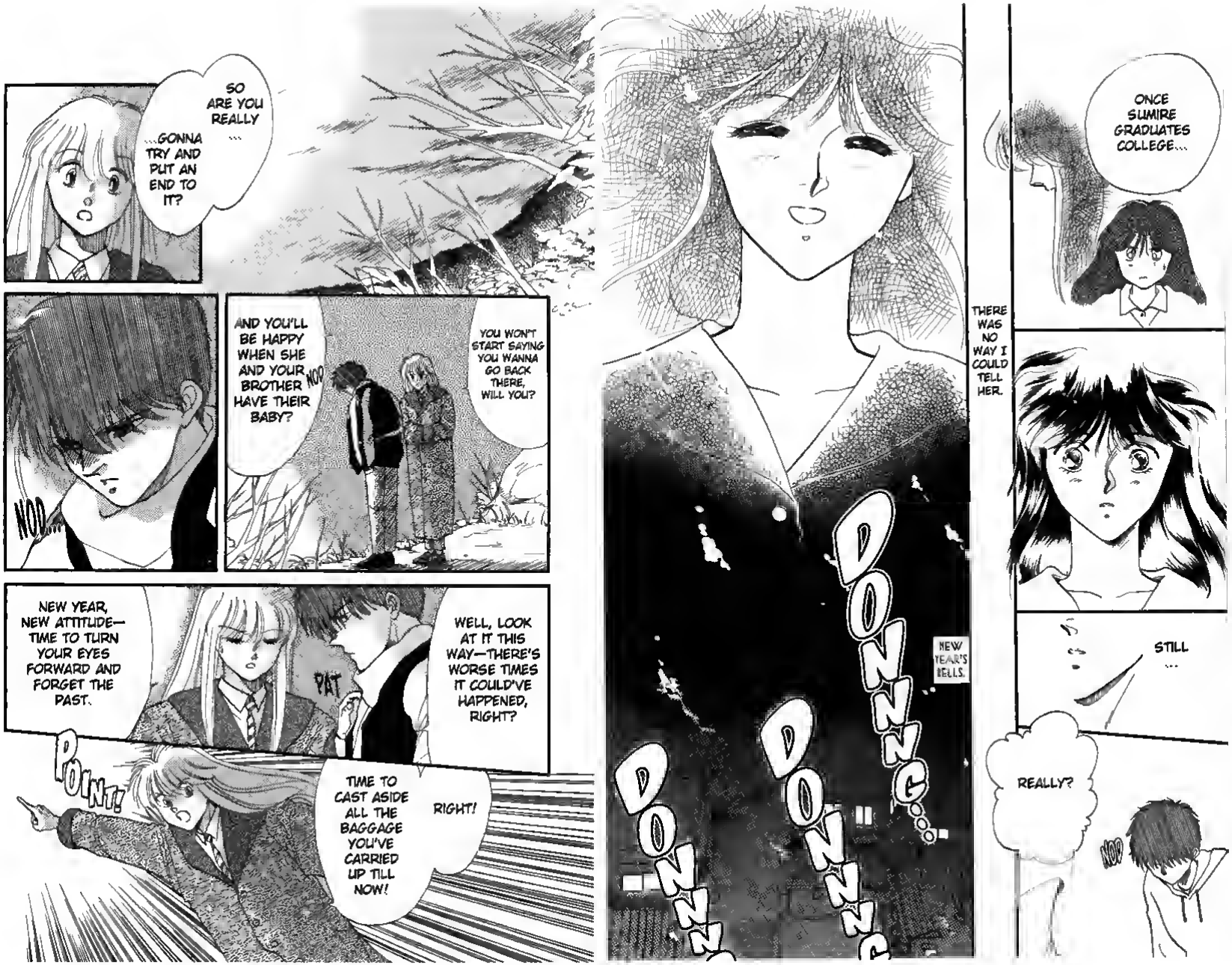
YOU DO?

I... I, UH...
'COURSE I DO
Heart Beat

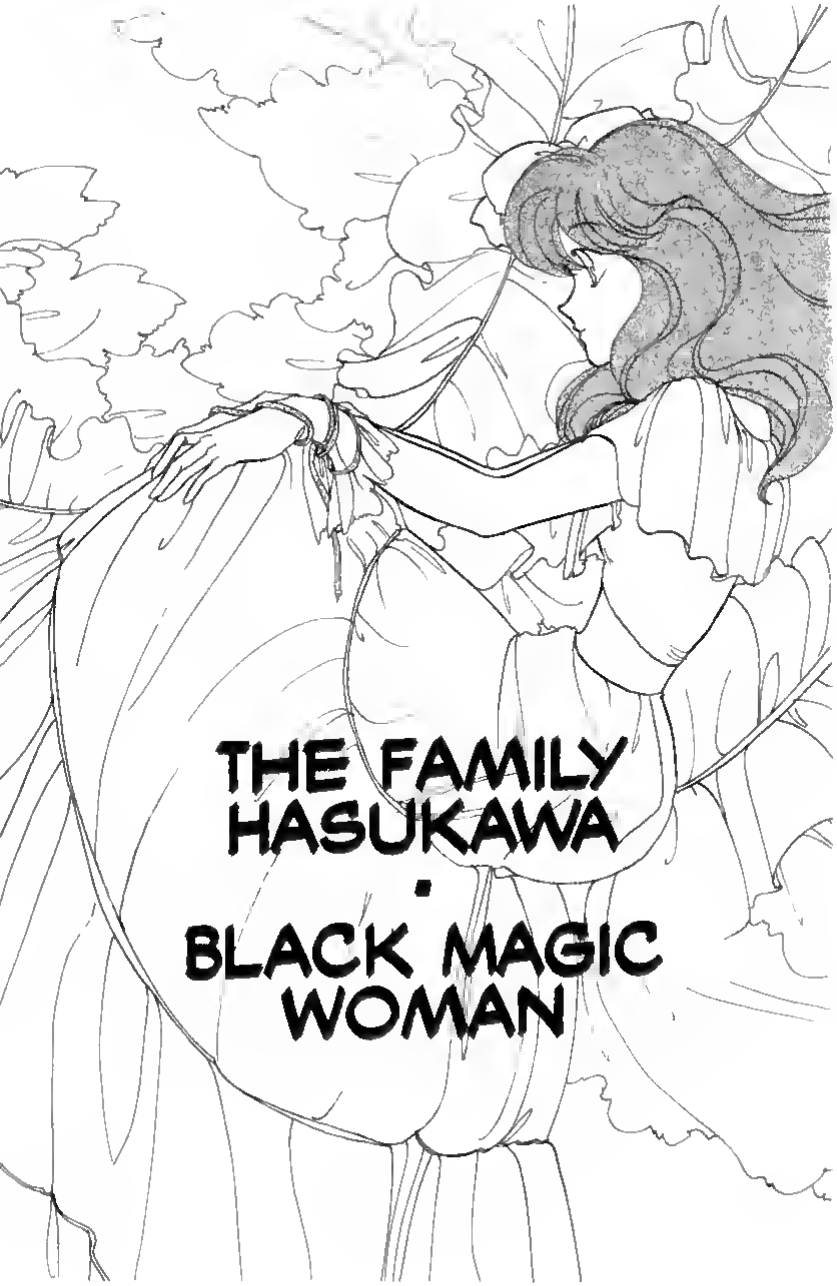
SUMIRE, DON'T JUST—
IT'S OKAY— LET ME DO THIS.
ZOOM
IN THAT CASE, KAZUYA-KUN...

I'D REALLY, REALLY LIKE TO...
KAZUYA-KUN, I...


...MARRY INTO YOUR FAMILY. MAY I?
MARRY?!


SO ARE YOU REALLY ...
...GONNA TRY AND PUT AN END TO IT?
NOD....
AND YOU'LL BE HAPPY WHEN SHE AND YOUR BROTHER HAVE THEIR BABY?
NOD
YOU WON'T START SAYING YOU WANNA GO BACK THERE, WILL YOU?
NEW YEAR, NEW ATTITUDE—TIME TO TURN YOUR EYES FORWARD AND FORGET THE PAST.
PAT
WELL, LOOK AT IT THIS WAY—THERE'S WORSE TIMES IT COULD'VE HAPPENED, RIGHT?
POINT!
TIME TO CAST ASIDE ALL THE BAGGAGE YOU'VE CARRIED UP TILL NOW!
RIGHT!
DONNNG...
DONNNG
DONNNG
NEW YEAR'S BELLS.
THERE WAS NO WAY I COULD TELL HER.
ONCE SUMIRE GRADUATES COLLEGE...
STILL ...
REALLY?
NOD

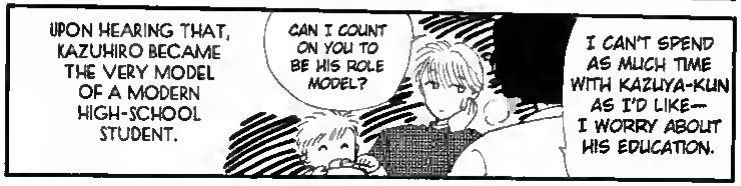
THE FAMILY HASUKAWA
BLACK MAGIC WOMAN

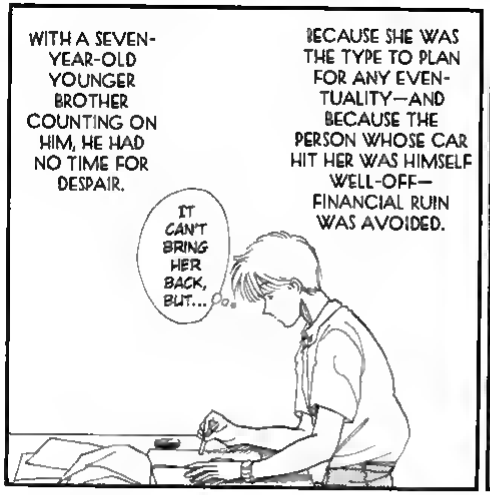

THE FAMILY HASUKAWA
•
BLACK MAGIC WOMAN

WHO AMONG US CAN TRULY BLAME HIM...?
AS FOR THE ONE I'LL MARRY SOMEDAY...
...IT WAS ONLY NATURAL HE'D THINK THIS WAY.
AFTER ALL HE'D BEEN THROUGH...
...AS LOW-MAINTE-NANCE AS HUMANLY POSSIBLE!
SHE'LL BE OLDER, FINANCIALLY STABLE, AND EMOTIONALLY MATURE. SHE'LL BE...
YAAAWN
ELSE-WHERE..

KAZUHIRO HASUKAWA'S FATHER DIED OF ILLNESS WHEN HE WAS 11 YEARS OLD.

TO HELP HIS "SINGLE WORKING WOMAN" MOM, HE LEARNED TO DO HOUSEHOLD CHORES.
Thanks! Sorry!!
You don't want to be here
HERE, I'LL DO THIS—YOU GET GOING
AFTER THAT TIME, HE DID HIS BEST TO HELP OUT WHERE HE COULD.

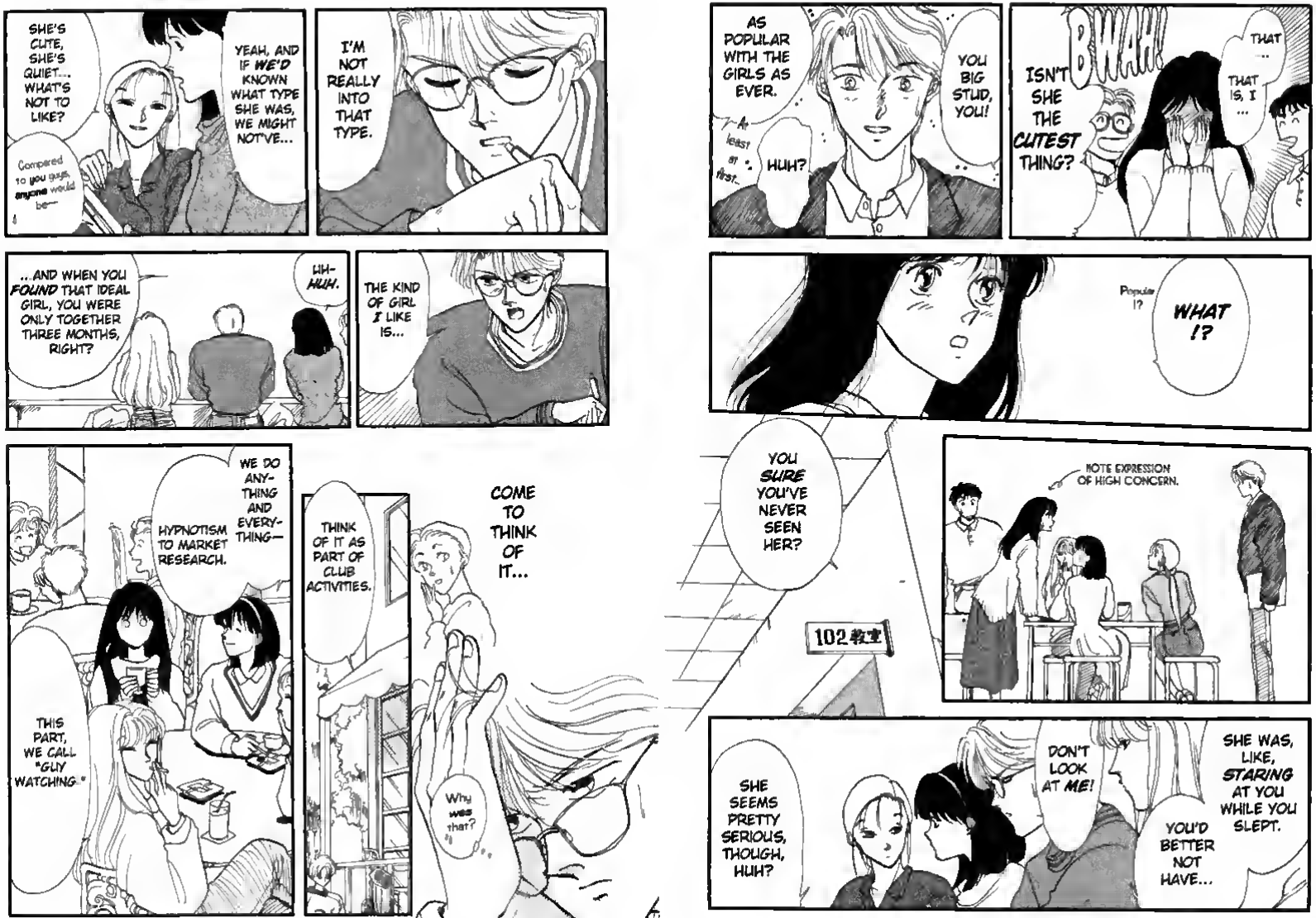

UPON HEARING THAT, KAZUHIRO BECAME THE VERY MODEL OF A MODERN HIGH-SCHOOL STUDENT.
CAN I COUNT ON YOU TO BE HIS ROLE MODEL?
I CAN'T SPEND AS MUCH TIME WITH KAZUYA-KUN AS I'D LIKE— I WORRY ABOUT HIS EDUCATION.


WITH A SEVEN-YEAR-OLD YOUNGER BROTHER COUNTING ON HIM, HE HAD NO TIME FOR DESPAIR.
BECAUSE SHE WAS THE TYPE TO PLAN FOR ANY EVEN-TUALITY—AND BECAUSE THE PERSON WHOSE CAR HIT HER WAS HIMSELF WELL-OFF— FINANCIAL RUIN WAS AVOIDED.
IT CAN'T BRING HER BACK, BUT...

WHEN HE WAS IN HIS SECOND YEAR OF HIGH SCHOOL, HIS MOM WAS NEXT TO LEAVE— KILLED IN A CAR ACCIDENT.
IN A DAZE...

WHAT'S GOING ON?
OOH!
HERE HE IS NOW.
HASU-KAWA! WHAT BRINGS YOU HERE?
NYWAYY!!
AREN'T YOU THE LITTLE MISS!
LEMME BORROW
MEET OUR NEWEST CLUB MEMBER.
WE WERE JUST TEASING HER...
APPARENTLY SHE'S BEEN AT THAT FANCY-SCHMANCY SHIRAKAWA GIRLS' ACADEMY SINCE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
KYAAH! KYAAH! KYAAH!
AND WE USED YOU, HASU-KAWA, AS THE BAIT TO...
WE JUST CRUISED HER!
BUT WHY'RE YOU ALL IN HERE?
OH, YEAH? She's cute

SO HAVE YOU FALLEN FOR HIM, OR WHAT?
THAT GUY OVER THERE? KAZUHIRO HASUKAWA—MEMBER OF THE PSYCHOLOGICAL RESEARCH CLUB, THIRD YEAR.
YOU WANT IN?
YOU MUST BE NEW HERE.
KITANI SUMIRE (18 AT THE TIME)—BRAND-NEW FRESHMAN THAT SPRING.
YES, I... ... THINK I DO.
Not that just any bait will do.
USING THE GUYS IN THE CLUB AS BAIT—WORKS EVERY TIME.
NICE ONE!
HUH?
WHAT'S YOUR NAME?
HEY, MORIKAWA ...


AS POPULAR WITH THE GIRLS AS EVER.
At least at first.
HUH?
YOU BIG STUD, YOU!
BWAH!
ISN'T SHE THE CUTEST THING?
THAT ...
THAT IS, I ...
Popular !?
WHAT !?
YOU SURE YOU'VE NEVER SEEN HER?
NOTE EXPRESSION OF HIGH CONCERN.
102教室
SHE SEEMS PRETTY SERIOUS, THOUGH, HUH?
DON'T LOOK AT ME!
YOU'D BETTER NOT HAVE...
SHE WAS, LIKE, STARING AT YOU WHILE YOU SLEPT.
SHE'S CUTE, SHE'S QUIET... WHAT'S NOT TO LIKE?
Compared to you guys, anyone would be—
YEAH, AND IF WE'D KNOWN WHAT TYPE SHE WAS, WE MIGHT NOT'VE...
I'M NOT REALLY INTO THAT TYPE.
...AND WHEN YOU FOUND THAT IDEAL GIRL, YOU WERE ONLY TOGETHER THREE MONTHS, RIGHT?
UH-HUH.
THE KIND OF GIRL I LIKE IS...
WE DO ANY-THING AND EVERY-THING—
HYPNOTISM TO MARKET RESEARCH.
THIS PART, WE CALL "GUY WATCHING."
THINK OF IT AS PART OF CLUB ACTIVITIES.
COME TO THINK OF IT...
Why was that?

HE'S, UM, MORE LIKE A MEMBER ON PAPER ONLY.
HE HAS A PART-TIME JOB, SO...
URK
SO, UM...
...DOES HASUKAWA-SEMPAI JUST NOT COME AROUND MUCH, OR...
DON'T TAKE IT THE WRONG WAY...
...BUT YOU MIGHT BE BETTER OFF NOT CHASING THAT ONE, Y'KNOW?
HUH?
YEAH, HE PAYS ALL HIS OWN TUITION.
JOB?
...BUT STILL SHE KEEPS COMING, EVERY DAY.
...OR SO I TOLD HER ...
UH, THANKS.
HE'S ALSO POOR.
HE DOESN'T SEEM TO LIKE GOING OUT--BORING, HUH?
HE'S BUSY, AND...
WELL, HE'S ...

MAYBE ONCE SHE'S MORE USED TO GUYS, SHE'LL LOSE INTEREST...
I'll play it cool
THEY DID SAY SHE CAME STRAIGHT FROM AN ALL-GIRLS' SCHOOL.
KITANI-SAN...
KITANI-SAN!
... NN ...?
FWAH!
?!
I-I, UM...
HEY, DON'T APOLOGIZE TO ME...
I-I'M SORRY!
YOU SURE YOU SHOULD BE SLEEPING OUT HERE LIKE THIS?

WHAT?
YOU MEAN, YOU WORK NIGHTS?
...NO ONE CAN SAY SHE ISN'T CUTE
WELL ...
NAH, MORE LIKE I'M JUST LAZY.
...THAT'S WHY YOU'RE ALWAYS SLEEPING.
WOW, SO...
BUT, THE TRUTH IS...
...YOU'VE GOT IT ALL TOGE-THER, DON'T YOU?
WHEN I FIRST SAW YOU HERE, SEMPAI...
...I THOUGHT TO MYSELF, "HE MUST REALLY BE AN EASY-GOING GUY."
I...
IF ...
...YOUR JOB KEEPS YOU SO BUSY...
OH.
IT MAKES ME THINK EVEN MORE OF YOU.

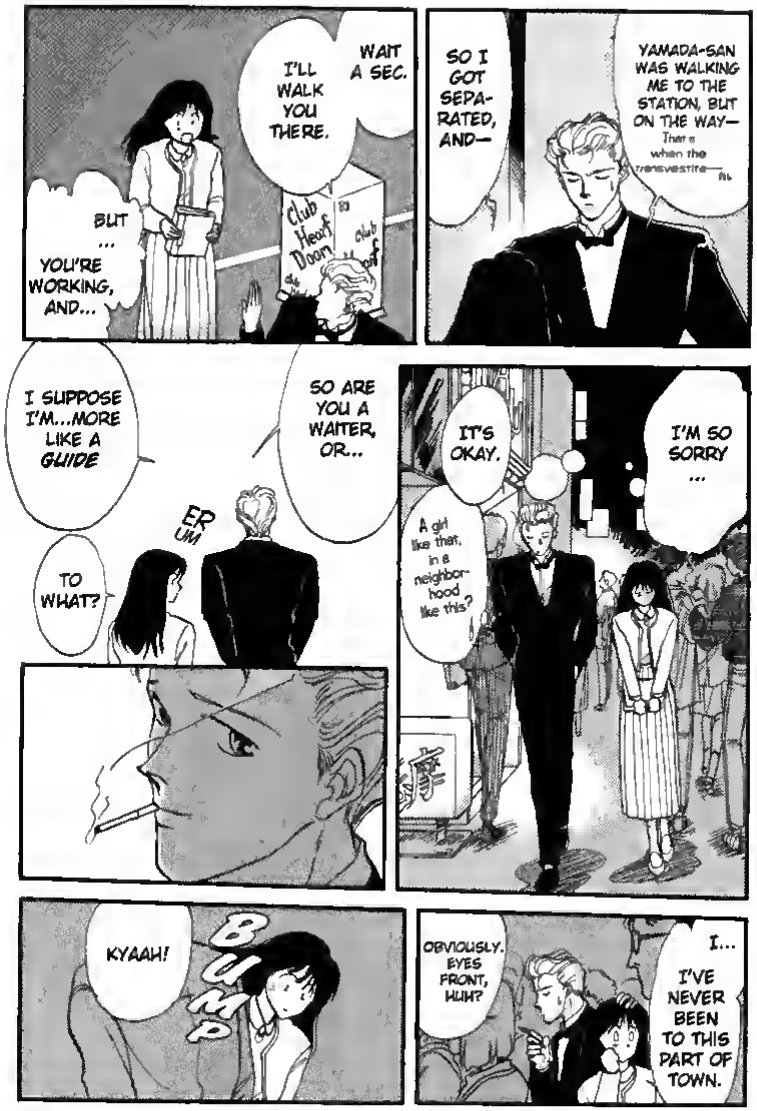
LOOK, I...
I GUESS I MUST'VE FALLEN ASLEEP
I WAS PRACTICING MY "GUY WATCHING," BUT THEN IT WAS SO RELAXING
Is that something you need to practice?
NO, NOT AT ALL! REALLY!!
THEN IT'S 'CAUSE OF YOUR JOB.
HUH?
IT'S NOT MY FAULT YOU STAY AWAY FROM THE CLUB, IS IT?
YOU TAKE NAPS HERE BETWEEN CLASSES, RIGHT?
I SEE YOU SOME-TIMES.
YOU DON'T MIND IF I COME BY HERE FROM TIME TO TIME, DO YOU?
SIGH
YAY!
YOU REALLY DON'T?
NO, I...
I DON'T MIND, BUT...
HUH?

LEAVING ASIDE THE FAIRNESS OF POINT-GRADING ESSAYS...
IT'S THE FIRST TIME I EVER GOT 100 POINTS!
MY ESSAY!
HEH HEH HEH
WHAT'S THIS?
"My Brother"
by Hasukawa Kazuya (Year 6)
Even though my brother goes to college since our mother passed away, he's been working nights so he can take care of me. He's the best brother in the world.
YOU DID, HUH? GOOD FOR YOU.
GOOD LORD, HIS HAND-WRITING'S TERRIBLE.
KOFF
KOFF
SO, HEY!
WHAT KIND'VE JOB ARE YOU DOING, ANYWAY?
BUT MY TEACHER SAYS THAT NOW I'M IN SIXTH GRADE, I SHOULD AT LEAST KNOW WHAT MY FAMILY DOES FOR A LIVING!
THAT'S NOT FOR YOU TO WORRY ABOUT.
NOZOMI
FUNNY...
...HOW THEY DON'T SEEM ALL THAT DIFFERENT, DO THEY?
...WHEN DO YOU FIND TIME TO STUDY?
NOZOMU
AND THEN HE CALLED ME SELFISH!!
YEAH, I... GUESS SO.
...
THAT'S UNFAIR, RIGHT?
...GIMME A BREAK!
WE'RE NOT S'PPOSED TO COPY EACH OTHER'S HOMEWORK, RIGHT?
AND HE DIDN'T DO HIS SHARE OF CLEANING THE CLASS-ROOM, EITHER.
—WHAT?
AT THIS RATE, MY SHOULDERS ARE NEVER GOING TO RELA...
WITH TWO OF 'EM AROUND, WHEN'LL THERE EVER BE TIME FOR...
GREAT MEAL, HUH?
YEAH, LYING'S BAD, ALL RIGHT.. NOT GOOD AT ALL.
NOZOMU

Club Heart Doom
THIS WAY, PLEASE.
PARTY OF THREE?
GOOD EVENING.
YOU JUST LET US KNOW. ♡
IF YOU'D PREFER COMPANY...
My Brother. The Gigolo
THEN AGAIN...
WHO KNOWS, MAYBE I...
I could sure use the extra cash
WELL, I AM STILL A STUDENT, SO...
WHY DON'TCHA SWITCH TO WORKIN' THE INSIDE, HASUKAWA?
The customers love you
I TELL YA, YOU'D BE RAKIN' IT IN
TMP TMP TMP
KYAAH!
WAIT A MINUTE!
HUH?
I'M SO SORR—
BUMP

ANOTHER THING FOR ME TO THANK THAT TEACHER FOR...
LOOK, LOTS OF PEOPLE...
...HAVE TO DO THEIR JOBS WHILE EVERYONE ELSE IS ASLEEP, OKAY?
THAT'S FOR SURE.
AND IT'S BECAUSE THOSE PEOPLE DO THOSE IMPORTANT JOBS THAT EVERYONE ELSE CAN GO ABOUT THEIR DAY!
WELL, I'M OFF TO WORK, SO...
RESPEKT
OH, UH...I SEE~~~
NATURALLY IMAGINATION FILLS IN WHAT THAT IMPORTANT JOB MIGHT BE
SEE YOU WHEN YOU GET BACK!
...MAKE SURE YOU LOCK UP, AND TURN OFF THE GAS, AND...
I KNOW.
AND BE IN BED BY 10:00.
I WILL.
7:06

WHAT'S GOING ON?
UM, I, UH...
HASU-KAWA-SEM..
It is her.
KITANI-SAN! WHY'RE YOU...
THAT WAS A TRANSVES-TITE, WASN'T IT!?
Kyaah!
I'M AFRAID I JUST... HOW RUDE OF ME!
HOLD ON A SEC.
I'D BETTER GO APOLOGIZE!
...A PARTY TO WELCOME NEW STUDENTS, HUH?
YES!
MY CURFEW'S AT 9:00, THOUGH, SO I LEFT EARLY, AND...


WAIT A SEC.
I'LL WALK YOU THERE.
BUT ... YOU'RE WORKING, AND...
SO I GOT SEPA-RATED, AND—
YAMADA-SAN WAS WALKING ME TO THE STATION, BUT ON THE WAY—
There is when the transvestite—
SO ARE YOU A WAITER, OR...
I SUPPOSE I'M...MORE LIKE A GUIDE
ER UM
TO WHAT?
IT'S OKAY.
I'M SO SORRY ...
A girl like that, in a neighbor-hood like this?
KYAAH!
BUMP
OBVIOUSLY. EYES FRONT, HUH?
I... I'VE NEVER BEEN TO THIS PART OF TOWN.

AH!
KITANI-SAN, LOOK...
WHAT?
MY PARENTS ARE BOTH DEAD, AND RIGHT NOW I'M TAKING CARE OF MY SIXTH-GRADE BROTHER.
I'M BECOMING A BETTER LIAR BY THE MINUTE ...
AND SO, TO MAKE SURE HE *HAS* THAT...
...I'LL LIE, CHEAT, OR ANYTHING ELSE, TILL HE'S FINALLY A GROWN-UP.
I WANT HIM TO GROW UP TO BE OKAY, Y'KNOW?
MY YOUNGER BROTHER... I CAN'T BEAR FOR HIM EVER TO START FEELING SORRY FOR HIMSELF, OR HATING THE WORLD FOR WHAT'S HAPPENED...
IT'S NOT THAT WE NEED THE MONEY TO *EAT* OR ANYTHING, BUT IF ANYTHING HAPPENS TO ME, I NEED TO MAKE SURE HE'S TAKEN CARE OF.

KITANI-SAN?
MAY I...
YES?
...ASK YOU SOME-THING?
NOTICE ALL THE DRUNKS? THEY'RE CONSTANTLY FALLING AND HURTING THEMSELVES, AND THEY, AH ..NEED FIRST AID.
WELL, AH, THAT WOULD BE...
THERE.
It's the middle of downtown
SPURT
WHY'RE THERE SO MANY *PHARMACIES* AROUND? I MEAN...

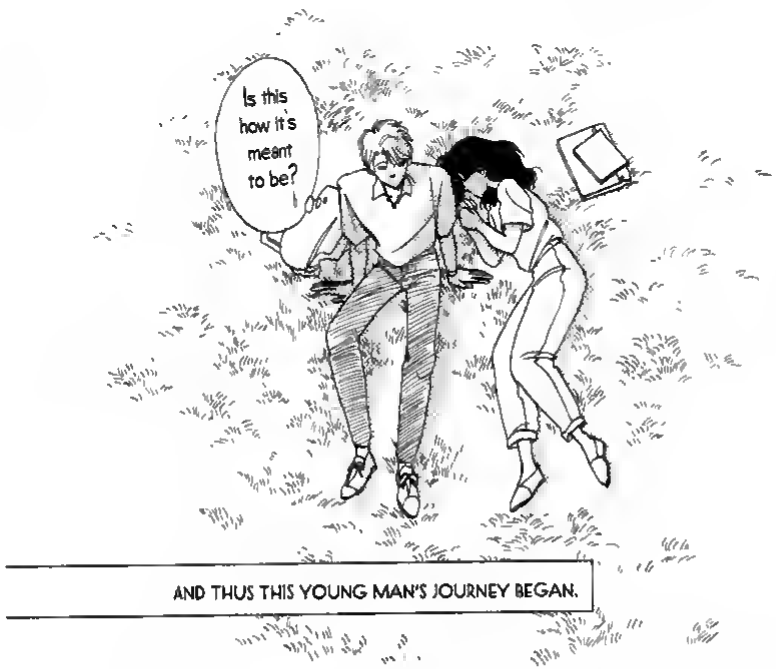
IT'S FOR THE BEST...
SHE CALLED THE NIGHT OF THE PARTY TO SAY SHE MADE IT BACK OKAY...
...BUT SHE HASN'T BEEN BACK HERE SINCE.
Maybe her parents locked her up?
Yeah, she's not allowed to hang out with losers like us.
IT'S ALL I COULD DO.
SHE'S CUTE— ONE OF THE GOOD ONES, REALLY— I'M SURE SHE WON'T HAVE A PROBLEM FINDING SOMEONE ELSE.
How is it a young guy like me can come to think like such a tired old man?
AND I'M SURE HE'LL FEEL THE SAME HIMSELF, ONCE HE'S MY AGE.
KYA-A-A-A-AH!

AT THE MOMENT, THAT'S ABOUT ALL I HAVE TIME FOR.
I'M SORRY.
THANK YOU...
...AND SORRY.

HASUKAWA-SEMPAI, I DON'T MEAN TO BOTHER YOU...NOT TILL I CAN GROW UP ENOUGH TO NOT BE A BURDEN ON YOU. ANYWAY...
I'M SORRY, I...
I WAS GOING TO JUST PASS BY WITHOUT SAYING ANYTHING—
IT'S TRUE.
LYING IS NOT GOOD AT ALL.
THE MORE YOU DO IT, THE MORE...
I SWEAR, I NEVER MEANT FOR—
...YOU START TO FORGET WHAT'S TRUE, AND WHAT ISN'T.
THIS IS ALL JUST BACK-GROUND MATERIAL, OF COURSE...
So then— ...you're saying it was her?
Not at all.

I-I'M SORRY, I...
YOUR HAIR! WHAT ...
M-MY HAIR? UM, I, UH...
.....
FWP
HUH? DIDN'T THE GIRL AT THE SALON TELL YOU?
YOU WASHED IT BUT DIDN'T BLOW-DRY IT, RIGHT?
I GOT A PERM RECENTLY, BUT...
...I THINK MAYBE IT DIDN'T TAKE.
I-IT WAS A GUY, ACTUALLY...
HOW IS IT EVEN MEN KNOW MORE ABOUT PERMS THAN...

BEFORE THERE COULD BE A HAPPY ENDING, THERE WERE A FEW HURDLES, YES.
Well! Aren't they friendly.
It's just how he is...
IT'S BEEN FOUR YEARS SINCE THEN.



THE FAMILY HASUKAWA • BLACK MAGIC WOMAN: THE END

Translation Notes

Page 9: Manga magazines frequently feature a few full-color pages at the beginning of a chapter as a sort of bonus to readers. Here the minor characters in *Greenwood* are delighted to be featured on the coveted color pages for once in their lives. In the trade-paperback collection, sadly, the color (and the joke) is lost.

Page 19: A much-loved baseball manga, *Kyojin no Hoshi* ("Star of the Giants") was forever cutting to the sister of Hyuma Hoshi, the hero of the story, who would weep rivers of mingled empathy and pride at the insanely rigorous training imposed on Hyuma by their father.

Page 20: *Jan-ken-pon* is the Japanese version of rock-paper-scissors. Except for the name, it's identical to the Western version.

Page 31: A *kotowaza* or traditional Japanese proverb. *"Neko ni mimizu"* literally means, "A worm to a cat." One is meant to imagine a cat's befuddled expression upon suddenly finding a worm. In the language of traditional English proverbs, you could've knocked Hasukawe over with a feather.

Page 31: Similar to the Western fairy tale in which the brownies sneak in late at night and make shoes for the poor cobbler, the Japanese folk tale *Tsuru no Ongaeshi* ("The Stork's Obligation") is about a stork saved by a hunter who, in thanks, weaves for him beautiful fabrics—on the condition that the hunter never peek during the weaving.

Page 41: Familiar as a play, as a children's story, and even as an opera, *Kuzuru* is a well-known work of traditional Japanese literature/drama. It was a safe assumption on the part of Yukie Nasu that her readers would understand the reference, as *Yuzuru* is a time-tested choice for school plays in Japan.

Page 46: All of the titles mentioned here are, like *Tsuru no Ongaeshi*, folk tales in which animals or spirits take human form. *The Fox Wife* is about a man who marries a *kitsune*, or fox spirit. *Bunbuku Chagama no Tanuki*, or "Bunbuku the Teakettle," is about a *tanuki* who plays tricks by turning into a little girl and a teakettle. *Ten'nyo no Hagoromo*, "The Heavenly Maiden's Feathered Robes," is a Noh play based on a folk tale about a man who snares a beautiful spirit by stealing the robe she uses to fly. The manga series *Ceres: Celestial Legend* is based on this story.

Page 54: Renowned actress Sayuri Yoshinaga is said to inspire passionate devotion in her male fans. *Tsuru*, a 1988 film version of *Tsuru no Ongaeshi*, starred Sayuri as the crane, hence the physics teacher's obsession with the fairy tale.

Page 69: The students' play is a ripoff—er, *homage* to the anime film *Lupin III: The Castle Cagliostro*, directed by Hayao Miyazaki and featuring the exploits of that much-loved scoundrel Lupin III, created by manga artist Monkey Punch.

Page 137: Kanda speaks in a combination of Japanese and English. Mitsuru compares him to popular radio DJ "Carol" Hisasue, known for his freewheeling, rapid-fire intermixing of English phrases into his Japanese.

Page 156: The "Self-Destruct Blast," or *Megante*, is a powerful spell from the long-running *Dragon Quest* video-game series. It's infamous for inflicting as much damage on the wielder as it does on the victim. In other words, Kazuya has struck the truth of the situation...to his own misery.

$9.99 USA/$13.95 CAN

Here is Greenwood™

It seems like 15-year-old Kazuya Hasukawa's life can't get much worse. Not only did his older brother marry Kazuya's first love, he brought his bride home to live with the family! Forced out of his own home, Kazuya enters an exclusive all-male boarding school, Ryokuto Academy. Unfortunately, a prestigious education is little compensation for getting stuck with the cross-dressing roommate from Hell....

Kazuya is so engrossed in an intense ping-pong match against his classmate Yoshitake that he is unaware of his unconscious motivations.... Then, with his mind still in disarray, he is forced to play a female role in the upcoming production of the school's cultural festival. The reappearance of student body president Shinobu's troublemaking sister does little to improve his latent thespianism. Plus, as more is revealed about Kazuya's brother Kazuhiro's courtship with the love of Kazuya's life, a shocking revelation emerges from the shadows....

A hit anime series in Japan!

VIZ

www.viz.com

This book reads from right to left.

RATED T+ FOR OLDER TEENS

ISBN 1-59116-844-9

9 781591 168447 50999

7 82009 21803 6 00999